

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JULY 5, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on July 5, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. in the Meeting Room of the Levy County Annex Building with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman, Rock Meeks – by phone
Vice-Chairman, John Meeks
Comm. Matt Brooks
Comm. Lilly Rooks

Also present were:

County Attorney – Nicolle Shalley
County Coordinator – Wilbur Dean

Comm. John Meeks called the Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Comm. Brooks gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comm. John Meeks.

EXPENDITURES

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the following expenditures presented for payment. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

CHECK NUMBER	145818-145828, 145831-145935
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	1,550,057.06
ROAD	63,544.30
SHIP	60,000.00
MOSQUITO CONTROL	16,718.35
TRANSPORTATION	81.93
911	16,320.25
COURT FACILITIES	19,862.78
MISC GRANTS	895.42
EMS	17,012.40
FIRE	8,974.54
TOURIST DEVELOPMENT	438.03
UTILITIES	71.74
COMMUNICATION	20,610.00
BLDG INSPECT & SAFETY	352.68
CAPITAL PROJECTS	818,780.92
ROAD IMPRV & RESTORE	26,938.20
LANDFILL	9,563.74
TOTAL	\$ 2,630,222.34
EFT/ACH PAYMENT	\$ 268,331.17

LCNR EXPENDITURES

Comm. Brooks made a motion to approve the following LCNR expenditures presented for payment. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. John Meeks abstained from voting.

CHECK NUMBER	145829
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	890.22
ROAD	398.05
EMS	27.98
FIRE	27.98
CAPITAL PROJECTS	684.70
LANDFILL	16.99
TOTAL	\$ 2,045.92

AMB SUPPLY, INC. (DBA LEVY JONES) EXPENDITURES

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the following AMB Supply, Inc. (DBA Levy Jones) expenditures presented for payment. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. Brooks abstained from voting.

CHECK NUMBER	145830
FUND	AMOUNT
GENERAL REVENUE	324.70
MISC GRANTS	59.95
EMS	224.54
FIRE	224.56
TOTAL	\$ 833.75

MINUTES

The minutes for the Regular Board Meetings held May 3, 2022 and May 17, 2022 were presented for Board approval.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meetings held on May 3, 2022 and May 17, 2022 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

AGENDA ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, MODIFICATIONS

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the agenda with the modification of Mr. Dean presenting the SHIP item in place of Marlon Gayle. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Comm. John Meeks stated Comm. Rooks had recently been given a Lifetime Membership Award by the Small County Coalition at the Annual Conference last week and wished to bring this to the attention of the public. A plaque and gift of a rocking chair was then presented to Comm. Rooks by Mr. Dean. Mr. Dean stated Comm. John Meeks had also been presented with an award from the Small County Coalition for his leadership and support on behalf of the small counties in Florida as Vice-Chairman of the Florida Association of Rural Counties.

Comm. Brooks introduced Layla DeVries, an American Government student in attendance observing local government at work.

BARNETT, FRONCZAK, BARLOWE & SCHULER ARCHITECTS

Douglas S. Barlowe, AIA

Presentation of conceptual design drawings and color renderings for the Levy County Courthouse Renovation Project. Mr. Barlowe pointed out some changes made at the request of the Commissioners at the last presentation.

Following the presentation, consensus was given by the Commissioners to move forward with this project.

LEVY COUNTY COMMISSIONER – JOHN MEEKS, VICE-CHAIRMAN

Comm. John Meeks stated he had been approached regarding the speeding on Main Street in Bronson and inquired of the other Commissioners what their thoughts were regarding this concern.

Audience member, Natalie Thomas spoke regarding the safety issue of Main Street. She stated it would make it safer for residents and children for sidewalks to be added, rather than speed bumps.

Alice LaLonde stated a traffic study could be done by the Road Department. Once this has been completed, she would bring the information back to the Board for them to decide what action to take.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNTY COORDINATOR

Wilbur Dean

- A. Requesting Board approval of Preliminary Rate Resolution No. 2022-33, EMS Tax Assessment for Fiscal Year 22-23. The rates will remain the same as last year.
- B. Requesting Board approval of Preliminary Rate Resolution No. 2022-34, Fire Protection Tax Assessment for Fiscal Year 22-23. The rates will remain the same as last year.
- C. Requesting Board approval of Preliminary Rate Resolution No. 2022-35, Solid Waste Disposal Tax Assessment for Fiscal Year 2022-23. The rates will remain the same as last year.
- D. Requesting Board approval of Preliminary Rate Resolution No. 2022-36, Roadway Maintenance Tax Assessment for Fiscal Year 2022-23. The rates will remain the same as last year.

Following Mr. Dean reading the title of each Resolution into public record, Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve all Preliminary Rate Resolutions as presented. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES. Comm. Rooks voted NO on Preliminary Rate Resolution No. 2022-36, Roadway Maintenance Tax Assessment.

Audience members who spoke regarding these items were: Terry Witt and Dana Sheffield.

Comm. Rooks asked Mr. Blanton to provide an explanation for the audience of why it was necessary for the Solid Waste and EMS rate to remain the same. Mr. Blanton stated information and reasons for not increasing the rates this year, but reminded the Board these rates would need to be increased soon.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Alesha Renaudo, on behalf of Mitch Harrell

- A. Requesting Board approval of a budget amendment in the amount of \$130,000 from Contingency Reserves to the Operating Budget. Due to the unexpected increased cost of fuel, additional funds are needed in the gasoline, oil, and lubricants line to cover fuel expenses for the remainder of the budget year.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the budget amendment as requested. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval and the Chairman’s signature on the Lease Amendment between Fowlers Bluff Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. and Levy County. The Amendment will extend the term of the Lease of the Fowlers Bluff Fire Station for an additional 5 years. (ending July 11, 2027). Mrs. Renaudo stated there is no cost for this lease.

Comm. Rooks made a motion to approve the Lease Amendment with the Chairman’s signature as requested. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- C. Requesting Board approval and the Chairman’s signature on the letter provided accepting a donation of multiple sets of extrication equipment from Marion County. Mrs. Renaudo stated there are 5 sets of equipment being donated.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve the acceptance letter with the Chairman’s signature as requested. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Jacqueline Martin, Director

Present Group Health Insurance Premiums for 2022/23 Fiscal Year 6% Premium Increase and present New Retiree Group Health Option.

The Commissioners agreed to review the information provided and make a decision at the next meeting, July 19th.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Jimmy Jones, Director

Requesting Board approval of Resolution 2022-37 amending the final budget for FY 22 in the amount of \$15,000. This increase from the Reserve for Capital Outlay Fund is for the purpose of covering additional costs for building improvements to the Willow Sink Polling Place.

Comm. John Meeks made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-37 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Brooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

SHIP

Wilbur Dean, on behalf of Marlon Gayle, Housing Planner

- A. Requesting Board approval of Deferred Payment Loan Agreement in the amount of \$30,000 for MaShonda T. Solomon, PA #594 for a new unit in Williston, Florida.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to approve the Deferred Payment Loan Agreement, PA #594 as presented. Second was made by Comm. John Meeks and the MOTION CARRIES.

- B. Requesting Board approval of Deferred Payment Loan Agreement in the amount of \$30,000 for Roberto Carlos Beltran Montes and Stephany Serrano Delgado, a married couple, PA #599 for a new unit in Morriston, Florida.

Comm. Brooks made a motion to approve the Deferred Payment Loan Agreement, PA #599 as presented. Second was made by Comm. Rooks and the MOTION CARRIES.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike and Holly Walker expressed to the Board their concerns of the two commercial, industrial businesses operating across the road from her property in Morriston, Russ Ironworks and Russ Welding & Machine. She stated the pollution and noise from the operation of these businesses six days a week has become unbearable. Upon contacting Code Enforcement, Mrs. Walker was informed the business is operating within the allowed use.

Natalie Thomas gave an update to the Board on behalf of the Affordable Housing Committee of a recent meeting in which they are trying to bring in Habitat for Humanity projects to Levy County.

Sheriff McCallum spoke to the Board of the large expense of a sentenced inmate, which has and will continue to be hospitalized. He stated this would likely cause the Sheriff's Department to request additional funds to cover the expense.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Comm. Rooks and **Comm. Brooks** spoke of the recent Florida Association of Counties conference they attended. Comm. Brooks spoke extensively of cyber-security.

Comm. John Meeks spoke of a meeting he attended at the Bronson Town Hall regarding the newly formed Wacasassa Water Supply group and their plan for the Town of Bronson to supply water to Otter Creek and Cedar Key. Discussion followed of the Board's desire to be a part of this project.

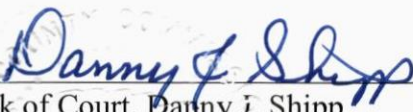
Comm. John Meeks reported of another spill in Valdosta, which flows from creeks into the Suwannee River. Comm. John Meeks stated he had been appointed by the Florida Association of Counties as Chairman for the Institute of County Governments.

Audience member, Dana Sheffield spoke of the water project item.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:11 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL



Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp



Vice-Chairman, John Meeks



FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME Meeks, John	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE Levy County Board of County Commissioners
MAILING ADDRESS P.O. Box 310	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
CITY Bronson, FL 32621	COUNTY Levy
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED 7/5/22	NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION: Levy County MY POSITION IS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ELECTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> APPOINTIVE

WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office MUST ABSTAIN from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also MUST ABSTAIN from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

* * * * *

ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

* * * * *

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, John Meeks, hereby disclose that on July 5, 2022 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

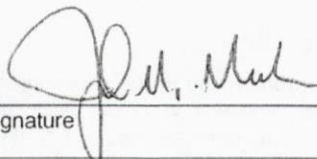
- inured to my special private gain or loss;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

Levy County purchases goods on a "Rotating Basis" from LCNR Enterprises, LLC a Florida Limited Liability Company, that I have an ownership interest in.

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

Date Filed



Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.

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LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME Brooks, Matthew	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE Levy County Board of County Commissioners
MAILING ADDRESS P.O. Box 310	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
CITY COUNTY Bronson, FL 32621 Levy	NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION: Levy County
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED 7/5/2022	MY POSITION IS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ELECTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> APPOINTIVE

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* * * * *

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I, Matthew Brooks, hereby disclose that on July 5, 20 22 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

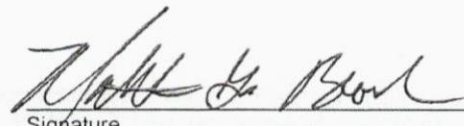
- inured to my special private gain or loss;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

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Levy County Purchases goods on a "Rotating Basis" from AMB Supply, Inc., "DBA Levy Jones" a Florida Corporation, that I have an ownership interest in.

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Signature

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