

**Nassau County Board of County Commissioners  
Strategic Session, February 15, 2022, 9:00 A.M.  
Florida State College at Jacksonville  
76346 William Burgess Blvd., Yulee, Florida**

**Commissioners:**

**Present:** Chairman Aaron C. Bell, Commissioners John F. Martin, Aaron C. Bell, Jeff Gray, Thomas R. Ford, and Klynt A. Farmer.

**Other Officials Present:** Michael S. Mullin, County Attorney; Denise May, Assistant County Attorney; Taco Pope, County Manager; and Marshall Eyerman, Assistant County Manager.

**Staff Present:** Heather Nazworth, Deputy Clerk; and Gwen Osbourne, Recording Secretary.

**Official Agenda Summary:**

**WS220214 - 9:16:02** Mr. Eyerman came forward to summarize the discussions from the previous meeting. Among the topics discussed were the goals of the new director, financial components and policies, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Reimbursement Project, and involvement with the National Institute of Government and Procurement (NIGP) to review and update the policies and operations.

Mr. Pope came forward to discuss the Prosperity Plan which was adopted in May 2021, including five over-arching priorities. He stated that there was a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in development and then explained the process for the RFQ. He also touched on the potential allocation for the Town of Callahan, which could be selected as the recipient of two grants. Mr. Pope explained that the grant money was previously turned down due to the possibility of the taxpayers having to repay \$17 million back in grant money if all requirements were unmet. Further discussion ensued regarding the Tourist Development Tax (TDT). Commissioner Farmer and Chairman Bell expressed their support and believe it will benefit the tourists and residents and should be implemented countywide. Mr. Pope discussed the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) adopted by the Board in 2021. He explained that the CIP allows for a project to be submitted and potentially be adopted into the CIP as a candidate project. The projects chosen to be

funded would be determined during the budget season each year. He then identified the five new candidate projects; Dove Road Extension, Blackrock Road and Green Pine Road Intersection Improvements, Barnwell Road Pedestrian Improvements, Pine Street Pedestrian Improvements, and the Pickett Street Connection. The Commissioners provided their input and requests for various projects throughout the County.

Mr. Pope discussed the next topic, the site plan for the water component for the William Burgess Crossing Community Park. He disclosed that the amenity was not part of the initial park development but has received much attention from community members. Discussion ensued regarding the safety and construction of the amenity. Mr. Pope then addressed the Animal Control campus expansion, stating that further development would have to be moved off-site due to the inability to expand the existing facility. He explained that the intent is to consistently work with those actively engaged in the animal control operations and that it is significant that the new site can address other public needs as well. The Commissioners provided suggestions regarding Road and Bridge and Animal Control.

Mrs. May reviewed the strategic goals for the County Attorney's office. Goal 1 is to create and implement streamlining of all outside legal counsel services utilized by the BOCC departments as they are used across the County. Goal 2 is creating matrices for the County Attorney's Office to track how the attorneys use their time. Goal 3 is the further development of the Records Management/Public Records Department by providing training for different departments. Goal 4 is supporting the County Manager in hiring a Risk Manager to identify risks and implement plans to prevent, decrease and mitigate risks that may arise. The group further discussed the position. The Commissioners provided their input and provided suggestions regarding the budget, strategic priority items, employee benefits, drainage, flooding concerns, and the future growth of the County.

Public input: Pamela Buncum came forward and stated that while she thought the sessions were very informative, she did not hear much mention of diversity or inclusion when the Commissioners spoke about their goals and intentions and wanted to see more representation.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**WS220214 - 10:55:30** All the Commissioners expressed appreciation.

There being no further business, the regular session of the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Approved on: September 26, 2022

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Jeff Gray, Chairman

Attest:

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John A. Crawford, Ex-Officio Clerk