

**REGULAR MEETING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 23, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held on December 23, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. in the BoCC Meeting Room at the Levy County Government Center.

CALL TO ORDER: Madam Chair Mills called the Meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

INVOCATION: Given by Comm. Hiers

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Comm. Hodge

ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Madam Chair, Comm. Desiree Mills
Vice Chair, Comm. Tim Hodge
Comm. Charlie Kennedy
Comm. Johnny Hiers
Comm. Rock Meeks

ALSO PRESENT:

County Manager – Mary-Ellen Harper
Legal Counsel - NGN, Evan Rosenthal (via telephone)

RECOGNIZE ELECTED OFFICIALS:

- Matt Brooks, Clerk of the Circuit and Comptroller: made comments on ending the year with good communication between BoCC staff and Clerk of Court staff and all constitutional officers as well.

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- **PUBLIC COMMENT:** NONE
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BUSINESS OR INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Approve the Customer Addendum between Levy County and Howmedica Osteonics Corp. DBA Stryker Sales, LLC and approve the purchase of eight (8) LifePack 35 Heart Monitors in the amount of \$450,761.16 from Stryker quoted under the Sourcewell Contract Solicitation #041823 in accordance with Sec. 2-200(c) of County Code. (Audio 5:15)

- **Presenter:** Mitch Harrell, Director Public Safety
 - **Discussion:** This purchase is a budgeted capital purchase to replace (8) heart monitors that have met their life expectancy and are no longer serviceable. Manufacturer states 7-8 years life expectancy. The county is getting 10-12 years currently out of these devices.
 - **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Kennedy motioned to approve.
 - Second: Comm. Meeks
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0
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2. Approve the letter terminating the Agreement for Request for Proposals No. 2025_003 – EMS Billing and Initial Collection Services and the Business Associate Agreement with EMS Management and Consultants, Inc. (Audio 7:25)

- **Presenter:** Mitch Harrell, Director Public Safety
 - **Discussion:** EMS|MC has not met the expectations of staff and a new vendor is recommended. Issues have come up that vendor has not addressed satisfactorily leading to this action request.
 - **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Hiers motioned to approve
 - Second: Comm. Kennedy
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0
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3. Approve the Agreement for Request for Proposals No. 2025_003 – EMS Billing and Initial Collection Services and the Business Associate Agreement with Digitech Computer LLC. (Audio 10:53)

- **Presenter:** Mitch Harrell, Director Public Safety
- **Discussion:** This will enter us into agreement for EMS Billing Services with Digitech as the new selected vendor following the guidelines of RFP 2025-003 completed earlier this year. This vendor came in second in an earlier RFP and has agreed to work with us.
- **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Meeks motioned to approve.
 - Second: Comm. Hodge
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0

4. Approve Amendment #3 to Agreement between Levy County and Federal Engineering, Inc.
(Audio 12:32)

- **Presenter:** Clayton Drew, Communication System Manager
- **Discussion:** This is a time extension for the current agreement to continue the communications project. This extension has no effect on previously approved funding for the project. Federal Engineering, Inc. are the subject matter experts on execution of the P25 radio communications project. This project is scheduled to be completed this fiscal year.
- **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Meeks motioned to approve.
 - Second: Comm. Kennedy
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0

5. Approve the transfer of \$61,540 from reserves from contingencies for E911 Indigital services for fiscal 2026. (Audio 15:07)

- **Presenter:** Jason Rivera, Finance and Administration Director
- **Discussion:** The amendment shall amend the FY25-26 Budget to appropriate funds from reserves for contingencies to provide the necessary funding for E911 services. This grant was received in the prior fiscal year and was not fully expensed. The remaining funds were not included in the budget for this year and the funds were swept into reserves. This request will reestablish this item in the proper budget line and allow it to be fully completed and expensed.
- **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Meeks motioned to approve
 - Second: Comm. Hiers
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0

6. Approve the priority ranking of roadway project in the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan and direct staff to apply for FDOT funding. (Audio 15:50)

- **Presenter:** Donald Clifton, Road Department Director
- **Discussion:** With approval of this capital improvement plan, the BoCC directs staff to make these roads a priority and to apply for FDOT funding. FDOT has now opened the application period for roadway project funding with a deadline of January 23, 2026. The roads approved are as follows:
 - C347 Part 1 (C347 Begin at SR 24N 6.034 miles to Satellite Station) (programmed 2029)
 - 1. C347 Part 2 (C347 Begin at Satellite Station to MP 12.5 for a total of 6.46 miles)

- 2. C347 Part 3 (C347 Begin at MP 12.5 to C330 for a total of 7.69 miles)
 - 3. C326 Part 1 (C326 Begin at US 19 to Powerline at Crystal Water for total of 5.11 miles)
 - 4. C326 Part 2 (C326 Begin at Powerline at Crystal Water to C337 for a total of 4.3 miles)
 - **Public comment:**
 - Emily Casey (Gulf Hammock) mentioned CR 326 from Hwy 19 to the Waccassassa Boat ramp as a roadway that needs widening and has a speed limit that is too high for the width of the roadway.
 - Terry Witherell (Gulf Hammock) CR 326 is a busy road with boat trailers and vehicles.
 - **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Meeks motioned to approve.
 - Second: Comm. Hiers
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0
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7. QUASI-JUDICIAL PETITION NO. SE22-02A: requesting a Minor Amendment to a Special Exception pursuant to Sec. 50-676, Sec. 50-746 and Secs. 50-796 through 823 to allow a Travel Trailer (also referred to as a Recreational Vehicle) Park on approximately 11.94 acres of land located in Section 30, Township 14 S, Range 14 E, Levy County Florida. (Audio)

- **Presenter:** Bo Cox, Development Service Director
 - **Discussion:** Owner and Developer requests the approval of the BOCC to Amend Petition No. SE 22-02. Taking into consideration County Code SEC. 50-755 (e) “Amendment. (1) Minor amendments. An amendment to an existing special exception shall be considered minor where it will not cause an expansion to the existing use, or additional impacts to surrounding properties, natural resources or public infrastructure. A minor amendment does not require a planning commission public hearing and instead may proceed to the board for one hearing with a written order. (2) Major amendments. A major amendment to an existing special exception is any change that is not deemed to be a minor amendment. A major amendment to an existing special exception shall be reviewed during the same process as an initial application.
 - BoCC heard from applicant. Applicant states project has been delayed due to agencies taking longer to respond to permitting and is asking for more time to the end of 2027 for completion.
 - **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Kennedy motioned to approve
 - Second: Comm. Meeks
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0
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8. Selection of Chair for the Levy County Commission for 2026. (Audio 1:09)

- **Presenter:** Madam Chair Desiree Mills

- **Discussion:** Madam Chair Mills recommended Comm. Hodge to be the next Chairman of the BoCC. She stated past boards had made it where whomever the Vice Chair was would move up to become the next Chairman.
 - **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Kennedy motioned to approve Comm. Hodge
 - Second: Comm. Hiers
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0
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8. Selection of Vice Chair for the Levy County Commission for 2026. *(Audio 1:11)*

- **Presenter:** Madam Chair Desiree Mills
 - **Discussion:** Madam Chair Mills asked BoCC members and specifically if Comm. Kennedy would like to be the next Vice Chair.
 - **Action:**
 - Motion: Comm. Meeks motioned to approve Comm. Kennedy
 - Second: Comm. Hodge
 - Vote Outcome: 5-0
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9. Selection of Board Appointments for the Levy County Commission for 2026. *(Audio 1:11)*

- **Presenter:** Madam Chair Desiree Mills
- **Discussion:** This motion is to have the Commission set which Commissioner will represent the County for all Boards and Committees.



2026 Board & Committee Appointments	District 1 Vice Chair Kennedy	District 2 Commissioner Meeks	District 3 Commissioner Mills	District 4 Chair Hodge	District 5 Commissioner Hiers
Affordable Housing Advisory Committee					x
Canvassing Board – Chair				x	Substitute
Canvassing Board – Alternate	Primary	General			
Career Source				x	
College of Central Florida Jack Wilkinson Levy Campus Advisory Committee			x		
County Agent Advisory Board		x			
Court Facilities	x				
Gulf Consortium			x		
Levy County Jail Diversion Planning Committee	x				
Local Technology Planning Team		x			
Middle & Lower Suwannee River & Withlacoochee River Task Force		x			
Nature Coast Business Development Council			x		
Nature Coast Oyster Alliance				x	
North Florida Economic Development Partnership Board of Directors					x
North Florida Regional Planning Council					x
Putnam Alachua Levy Library Board				x	
Resiliency Florida Board of Directors					x
RESTORE Act Advisory Committee			x		
Small County Coalition	x				
Tourist Development Council			x		
Transportation Disadvantage – Chair				x	
Transportation Disadvantage – Alternate					x
Value Adjustment Board – Chair				x	
Value Adjustment Board - Alternate	x				

● **Action:**

- Motion: Comm. Kennedy motioned to approve all appointments
- Second: Comm. Hodge
- Vote Outcome: 5-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Speaker One: Jeff Hardison (Chiefland) commented on remembering the days of Dana Sheffield having an end of the year message to the BoCC. Mr Hardison claimed he is not as qualified as Mr Sheffield to deliver those remarks. Encouraged the BoCC to remember the days of Dana Sheffield.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

- Madam Chair Desiree Mills- A lot has been done this year and appreciates Mary-Ellen Harper and county staff adapting to the changes of 2025. Have had some people ask about Habitat for Humanity and what the relationship was with the BoCC. Inquired with the County Manager to see if they would attend a meeting and give a presentation to the BoCC.
- Comm. Kennedy- Looking forward to getting things updated and brought up to today's times in 2026. Looks forward to helping the citizens moving forward.
- Comm. Meeks- A lot of things that had to be done this year. Merry Christmas to everyone. Thanked staff for all they've done with everything that has been thrown at them.
- Comm. Hodge- Thanked the BoCC and stated everyone has their differences and appreciates that everyone gets along but leaves it all at the meeting. The BoCC is trying to do the best for the county, despite it not always looking that way. Other counties have Commissioners that hate each other and take to social media to air it out. Merry Christmas to everyone.
- Comm. Hiers- Thanked staff for handling business even when things are hard. Thanked BoCC for working together and being cordial even when they disagree. Has learned a lot in his first year of service. Emphasized working together with cities and towns of Levy County. Will keep doing his best and Merry Christmas.

Requesting Approval of Expenditures:

- Madam Chair Mills requested approval of expenditures in the amount of **\$1,152,251.67**.
- **Action Taken:**
 - Motion Comm. Kennedy motioned to approve
 - Second Comm. Meeks
 - Vote Outcome 5-0 approved

ADJOURNMENT: 10:41 AM

Minutes Submitted by: Matt Brooks, Clerk of Court & Comptroller

Date Submitted: 12/23/2025