

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
DECEMBER 8, 2014
2:30 PM**

Proceedings of an emergency meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, held in the Cordova Conference Room at the County Administration Building, 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida.

Notice of an emergency meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, was given on December 8, 2014.

Present: Jeb S. Smith, District 2, Vice Chair
 Michael Wanchick, County Administrator
 Darrell Locklear, Assistant County Administrator
 Jerry Cameron, Assistant County Administrator
 Patrick McCormack, County Attorney
 Robin Platt, Deputy Clerk

Also present: Howard White, Building Official; Press Tompkins, County Engineer; Jim Schock, Floodplain Manager; Linda Stoughton, Director of Emergency Management; and Jeff Alexander, Deputy Director of Emergency Management

(2:37 p.m.) Patrick McCormack, County Attorney, explained the purpose of the meeting: to consider a declaration of emergency.

(12/08/14 - 1 - 2:37 p.m.)
CALL TO ORDER

Smith called the meeting to order.

(12/08/14 - 1 - 2:37 p.m.)
ROLL CALL

Everyone identified his or herself for the record.

(12/08/14 - 1 - 2:38 p.m.)
APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Smith approved the agenda, as submitted.

(12/08/14 - 1 - 2:38 p.m.)

1. CONSIDER AN EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY ALONG THE ATLANTIC OCEAN COASTLINE IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY

McCormack reviewed the statute and ordinance that outline the procedures for declaring emergencies, and that give local jurisdictions the authority to issue emergency declarations and proclamations.

Press Tompkins, County Engineer, reported that his department began monitoring the beach early this morning. He said they encountered a very rapid rate of erosion; three to five feet in a period of 30 to 60 minutes, which is two to three times greater than the usual rate. He said that some residents had lost up to 30 feet [of property] this morning alone, as the tides are exceptionally high at this time due to lunar conditions. He said

that the problem was countywide, not isolated to a specific area. He recommended a state of emergency be declared in order to allow the County, through the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), to assist residents in armoring their properties. He reported that the storm event was expected to continue through the night, with another high tide cycle tonight and then again in the morning.

He stated that he spoke with DEP this morning and they authorized the County to do some work in the Summerhaven area. DEP is also expediting permitting and allowing temporary access through some vacant lots to allow for wall construction.

(12/08/14 - 2 - 2:43 p.m.)
PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

(2:43 p.m.) Discussion ensued on noticing for emergency meetings, the critical nature of the emergency and working cooperatively with the DEP.

(2:47 p.m.) McCormack distributed and read the proclamation.

(2:54 p.m.) **Smith, acting on the recommendation of staff and legal counsel, declared a local state of emergency.**

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION NO. 2014-3

**A PROCLAMATION DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL
EMERGENCY AS PROVIDED BY PART 1, CHAPTER 252,
FLORIDA STATUTES AND BY ST. JOHNS COUNTY,
FLORIDA, ORDINANCE NO. 94-25**

(2:54 p.m.) McCormack suggested a revision to the proclamation, in Section III, adding the word "property" to the last line. **Smith accepted the change.**

(12/08/14 - 2 - 2:55 p.m.)

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Approved _____ January 20_____, 2015

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Priscilla L. Bennett, Chair

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: Pam Halterman
Deputy Clerk

