

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FEBRUARY 23, 2021
8:00 A.M.**

Proceedings of a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of St. Johns County, Florida, held in the auditorium at the County Administration Building, 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida.

Notice of a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, was communicated on February 18, 2021, via media, website, and social media postings.

Present: Jeremiah R. Blocker, District 4, Chair
Henry Dean, District 5, Vice Chair
Christian Whitehurst, District 1
Jeb S. Smith, District 2
Paul M. Waldron, District 3
Hunter S. Conrad, County Administrator
Patrick McCormack, County Attorney
Crystal Smith, Deputy Clerk

Also present: Brad Bradley, Deputy County Administrator Chief of Staff; Joy Andrews, Deputy County Administrator of Strategic Affairs

(02/23/21 - 1 - 8:00 a.m.)
CALL TO ORDER

Blocker called the meeting to order. He provided opening comments regarding remote public participation.

(02/23/21 - 1 - 8:01 a.m.)
ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll. Commissioners Smith, Waldron, Dean, and Blocker were present. Commissioner Whitehurst participated remotely.

(02/23/21 - 1 - 8:02 a.m.)
INVOCATION

Smith led the invocation.

(02/23/21 - 1 - 8:03 a.m.)
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

George McCray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

(02/23/21 - 1 - 8:05 a.m.)
PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRINITY PARISH CHURCH

Melissa Lundquist, Assistant to the Board of County Commissioners, read the proclamation.

(8:07 a.m.) **Motion by Dean, seconded by Waldron, carried 5/0, to accept the proclamation.**

Yea: Smith, Waldron, Dean, Whitehurst, and Blocker
Nay: None

(02/23/21 - 2 - 8:08 a.m.)

1. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Joseph Giammanco, Emergency Management Director, provided an update on the total number of COVID-19 cases and vaccine distribution. He noted that the County had shifted from the Eventbrite System for appointments, to the pre-registration system. He encouraged anyone over the age of 65, or healthcare workers with direct patient contact, to schedule an appointment for a vaccination. Additionally, he expressed his appreciation toward all the volunteer workers and recognized Ashley Brown, Facilities Coordinator, Solomon Calhoun Center, for being an outstanding asset to the Emergency Operations Center. Blocker presented Brown with a token of gratitude for her hard work and dedication at the Emergency Operations Center.

(8:16 a.m.) Tom Reynolds, 50 Brigantine Court, questioned what the plan was for restaurant workers getting vaccinated.

(8:18 a.m.) BJ Kalaidi, 8 Newcomb Street, spoke on rescinding mask mandates in County buildings; questioned the total number of County employees who had contracted COVID-19; and requested public comment be moved to the beginning of meetings.

(02/23/21 - 2 - 8:20 a.m.)

2. EXTENSION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

Patrick McCormack, County Attorney, presented the details of the extension. He recommended an extension for a seven-day period.

(8:21 a.m.) **Motion by Dean, seconded by Waldron, to adopt St. Johns County Emergency Proclamation No. 2021-8, extending the local state of emergency for an additional seven-day period.**

(8:22 a.m.) Tom Reynolds, 50 Brigantine Court, spoke in support of extending the emergency proclamation.

(8:23 a.m.) **The motion carried 5/0.**

Yea: Smith, Dean, Waldron, Whitehurst, and Blocker
Nay: None

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION NO. 2021-8

**A PROCLAMATION EXTENDING THE DECLARATION
OF A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY AS PROVIDED BY
CHAPTER 252, PART I, FLORIDA STATUTES AND BY
ST. JOHNS COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2021-4**

(02/23/21 - 2 - 8:23 a.m.)

3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

McCormack requested Board clarification pertaining to RFP No. 19-22, Land Exchange of the Golf Course at St. Johns Golf Club; and questioned whether the Board wanted to move forward with the renovation.

(8:28 a.m.) Motion by Smith, seconded by Waldron, to direct staff to reject all responses to RFP No. 19-22, Land Exchange for Renovation of Golf Course at St. Johns Golf Club.

(8:29 a.m.) Tom Reynolds, 50 Brigantine Court, spoke in opposition of rejecting RFP No. 19-22, and requested the golf course be sold.

(8:30 a.m.) BJ Kalaidi, 8 Newcomb Street, requested clarification on whether the RFP was a done deal or if it would be brought back at a later meeting.

(8:33 a.m.) Ken Phillips, Cypress Lakes, encouraged the Board to reject RFP No. 19-22.

(8:34 a.m.) Dean explained the Board directed staff, at the meeting on February 16, to bring the matter back in April/May, to provide suggested options to move forward. Discussion ensued.

(8:36 a.m.) The motion carried 4/1, with Blocker dissenting.

Yea: Smith, Waldron, Dean, and Whitehurst

Nay: Blocker

(8:36 a.m.) Blocker said going forward into March his plan was to sign the emergency proclamation. *Consensus was given from the Board.*

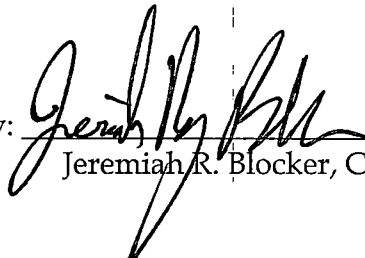
(02/23/21 - 3 - 8:37 a.m.)

ADJOURN

With there being no further business to come before the Board, Blocker adjourned the meeting at 8:37 a.m.

Approved _____ March 2 _____, 2021

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:  _____
Jeremiah R. Blocker, Chair

ATTEST: BRANDON J. PATTY,
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER

By:  _____
Deputy Clerk

