**Jasper County Board of Commissioners**

**September 21, 2020**

**Work Session Minutes**

**6:00 P.M.**

Commissioner Henry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Chairman, Bruce Henry, Vice-Chairman, Gerald Stunkel, Don Jernigan, and Doug Luke.

Staff Present: County, Manager, Mike Benton, and Administrative Services Director, Sharon Robinson.

Chairman Henry called the Work Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chairman Henry stated that we will be discussing our Public Facilities Authority and CDBG program. He stated that we had 2017 and 2019 grants awarded. We need to decide if we would like to get a 2021 application in for the CDGB grant process. It has to affect low income beneficiaries.

Mr. Benton stated that he wants to make sure the board is aware that getting the application in is not a guarantee. The process is based on points. The April deadline is tight.

Chairman Henry stated that we could possibly work with the City of Monticello for a housing project. The Commissioners and County Manager discussed opportunities for Sands Park.

Commissioner Jernigan suggested an amphitheater where the current Rose Bowl Field is. The board also discussed requesting work for the Food Bank.

The board agreed to see if a representative from Department of Community Affairs would be available for the October 5th meeting.

Chairman Henry started the conversation about the Public Facilities Authorities. He posed the question of what type qualifications would the board like to have.

Commissioner Luke stated that it would be similar to the Landfill Committee that was created at one point.

Commissioner Jernigan stated that he would like to see just one commissioner on the board.

County Attorney Ozburn explained the working of the PFA and how the bylaws would work. He explained that the BOC does not have direct Authority over the PFA.

Commissioner Luke questioned how do we see the board functioning.

Commissioner Stunkel stated that they will need to meet at least the first six months.

Chairman Henry stated that some of our boards get paid, he asked if board members will be paid.

County Attorney Ozburn stated that the members will be reimbursed for expenses but not paid.

Mr. Bill Gardner asked if this board is just administrative with little power.

Attorney Ozburn stated that for practical purposes yes. He stated that this board cannot raise revenue. Independently they have very little power.

Chairman Henry stated that he will like to suggest to the PFA board to not bring anything to the BOC without having at least a 4-1 or 3-2 vote.

Commissioner Jernigan suggested that one qualification that he would like to see in candidates is strong financial background. Other qualifications that were thrown out were strong business background, must be 21 years old, must be a county resident for at least 2 years, and no felony charges.

Commissioner Luke stated that he thinks there should be one member from each district except for the district that the Commissioner is from. They also mention positive thinkers, visionary, long-term planner and accounting background, possibly not on another board.

Attorney Ozburn stated that most of the requirements are laid out in the enabling legislation. The question was asked if the person could be a county employee. There are not restrictions for county employees.

The board discussed the language of the advertisement for the PFA board openings.

Chairman Henry declared the Work Session closed at 7:18 p.m.

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Bruce Henry, Chairman

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Sharon S. Robinson, Clerk