

**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
Commission Board Room  
Dixie County Courthouse  
214 NE Hwy 351, Cross City, FL 32628  
November 6, 2025 – 10:00 AM

The Board meetings are audio recorded. The public can hear and participate in the meeting via conference call by dialing 1(917)900-1022 and enter code 32628.

**COMMISSIONERS**

Jody Stephenson, District 1, Chairman  
Daniel Wood, District 2  
Mark Hatch, District 3, Vice Chairman  
Jamie Storey, District 4,  
David Osteen, District 5

**STAFF**

John Jenkins, County Manager  
Roy Bass, Assistant County Manager  
Martha McCaskill, Administrative Asst/Grant Coordinator  
Chana Watson, County Attorney  
Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court  
Brenda Royal, Chief Financial Officer  
Christie Zander, Deputy Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jody Stephenson called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG**

Commissioner Mark Hatch led the Invocation and the Pledge to the American Flag.

**APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

**10/14/25 TOCC/BOCC Minutes**

**Commissioner David Osteen made a motion to approve 10/14/2025 Workshop with TOHB and BOCC Minutes. Commissioner Jamie Storey seconded. Board approved.**

**10/14/2025 VAB Minutes**

**Commissioner David Osteen made a motion to approve 10/14/2025 VAB Minutes. Commissioner Jamie Storey seconded. Board approved.**

**09/15/2025 Regular BOCC Minutes**

**Commissioner David Osteen made the motion to approve 09-15-2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Daniel Wood seconded. Board approved.**

## **10/16/2025 Regular BOCC Minutes**

**Commissioner David Osteen made the motion to approve 10-16-2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Daniel Wood seconded. Board approved.**

### **VOUCHER APPROVAL**

**Commissioner David Osteen made the motion to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Jamie Storey seconded. Board approved.**

### **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS/ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Mayor Ryan Fulford reminded everyone about the Veterans' Day Parade and provided the timeline for Tuesday, November 11, 2025

- 10:00 am Line-up
- 10:30 am Parade
- 11:00 am Ceremony in the park

He stated the Economic Team will be attending the FREDA (Florida Rural Economic Development Association) Summit in Ocala November 19-21, 2025. The Team will share what they learned when they return.

Audit Report was provided by Caleb Perla, with Allen Jones, CPA September 30, 2024 audit report, which showed total assets of \$30.2 million and liabilities of \$19.2 million, with a fund balance of \$11 million. The county's financial statements received an unmodified opinion

### **Audit Report Overview**

- Mr. Perla explained the independent auditors' report, which states a full financial audit was conducted, and the financial statements present fairly.
- Management's discussion and analysis section is highlighted, providing an overview of the county's financial position.
- The county maintains 24 governmental funds, including eight major funds, with detailed financial data presented.
- The balance sheet summary shows assets, liabilities, and unassigned fund balances for the general fund and all governmental funds.

### **Detailed Financial Analysis**

- Mr. Perla provides a detailed breakout of non-major funds and their financial data.
- The balance sheet summary shows total assets, liabilities, and fund balances for all governmental funds.
- The governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance is discussed, showing a slight surplus for the year.

- Capital assets and long-term liabilities are reviewed, with total capital assets of \$99.4 million and long-term liabilities decreasing by \$170,000.

### **Management Letter and Compliance Procedures**

- Mr. Perla discussed the management letter, which contains follow-up information on prior findings.
- Independent accountants' report and government auditing standards report are reviewed, with no findings regarding investment compliance and E-911 grant compliance.
- The federal and state single audit report is discussed, with no findings related to major federal programs and state projects.
- The schedule of findings and question costs is reviewed, with one finding regarding a full physical asset inventory account.

### **KATRINA VANAERNAM AND SHEILA FRIERSON, DIXIE COUNTY ANTI-DRUG COALITION**

Mrs. VanAernam reminded everyone of the two functions of the Anti-Drug Coalition to the community is Prevention Education and Recovery Resources.

January of 2026 marks 15 years in the community, something they are very proud of, she also mentioned they try to attend all of the events in the county, it's been a busy couple of months.

- October, we celebrated Halloween. Mrs. VanAernam gave an update on the Halloween Trunk or Treat. Old Town had approximate attendance of 1000 and they were at Camp Anderson. Cross City was out at Cross City Lumber this year for the first time they had approximately 2000 attendees. And if you want to see the community excited and happy, go to one of those events.
- The Mural Recognition Ceremony and Elections Office Open House held at the Elections Office November 4 from 11am-1pm was very well attended, exceeding attendance expectations.
- Red Ribbon poster contest was held at Ruth Rains Upper Elementary, there were approximately 272 entries, students from fourth, fifth and sixth grade participated. There were nine winners. The Coalition partnered with McDonald's, and they helped with some gift certificates. Over \$450 worth of gift certificates were given out to our winners. We were excited about that. We're having those posters turned into two real posters by our new print shop down in Old Town.

In closing, Mrs. VanAernam thanked everyone for their continued support.

**KAY MCCALLISTER, TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

improvements at Gornto Springs and Hinton Landing, funded by tourism funds, and upcoming events like the Veterans Day Parade and Suwannee Boat Parade.

Mrs. McCallister stated that the County has done a magnificent job making the improvements.

Upcoming Events:

- Suwannee Firehouse will be having their Christmas Bazaar. Saturday, November 22 from 10 am to 3 pm. It is a great place to go and get unique Christmas gifts.
- Friday, November 28 we'll be having the first, hopefully annual Suwannee Boat Parade. It will be starting down behind the Salt Creek Restaurant; the route will be posted soon.
- December 5 is Christmas Under the Barn at The Hill Heritage Wedding Venue in Old Town.
- December 15 will be the Third Annual Cracker House Winery Christmas at the Ranch.

Mrs. McCallister requested for everyone to please come support that as much as you can.

**GREG BAILEY, NORTH FLORIDA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Kellan Bailey provided updates on bid openings for watermain extension and Fire Station 6, with responsive bids received from various contractors.

**Watermain – open bidding**

- Advanced Project Solutions LLC, in the amount of \$301,300.00
- Anderson Columbia in the amount of \$468,858.74
- Duggar Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$492,404.00
- McKinney Contracting, LLC. in the amount of \$428,889.00
- Easy Contracting LLC, in the amount of \$472,500.00
- Worth Construction and Development Inc. in the amount of \$394,950.47

We did receive one unresponsive bid, due to no bid bond being included in the bid package. That bid amount would have been below bid at \$297,716.00.

Mr. Bailey stated that two grants have been submitted on the County's behalf for the watermain extension. He said that he received information first thing this morning that there is a meeting next week to discuss prioritizing those grant applications. In Mr. Bailey's opinion, the Board may want to table this until we see what information is presented in that meeting and see if that grant is funded.

**Commissioner Hatch made the motion to table awarding the watermain contract until after the grant meeting. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.**

**Fire Station 6 HSB – open bidding**

- McLaughlin and Company at \$2,730,000.00
- Payne Construction Group in the amount of \$2,736,769.00
- J & B Contracting LLC in the amount of \$3,278,319.00
- Slack Construction, in the amount of \$2,605,500.00
- KBT Contracting Corporation in the amount of \$2,675,568.00
- Gray Construction in the amount of \$2,549,219.00

Mr. Bailey stated that the Board did receive one unresponsive bid, again, due to no bid bond being included in the bid package. That was in the amount of \$2,636,163.00

**Commissioner Hatch made the motion to award the Fire Station 6 contract to Gray Construction. Commissioner Osteen seconded. Board approved.**

95<sup>th</sup> & 97<sup>th</sup> received the Notice to Proceed and the contractor will be out as soon as their schedule is freed up.

Mr. Bailey will update us on the watermain at the next meeting.

**JOHN LOCKLEAR, LOCKLEAR AND ASSOCIATES**

Mr. Locklear provided an update on the Dredging & Shired Island Projects:

Army Corps of Engineers is on furlough with the Government shutdown so there has been no movement on the project.

Mr. Locklear stated that he will let everyone know when he does.

He spoke about County Road 351 getting started and that they had their first progress meeting a week or so ago, but they're just getting started.

Mr. Locklear said that was all he had at this time.

**CINDY BELLOT, LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

Mrs. Bellot was not present at this meeting.

**DIANN JONES, SUWANNEE WATER AND SEWER**

Mrs. Jones was not present at this meeting.

**STEVE FREMEN, CODE ENFORCEMENT & VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER**

Mr. Fremem was not present at this meeting.

**MICHAEL GAINEY, COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT**

Mr. Tim Gainey was not present at this meeting.

**TIM JOHNSON, SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Johnson was not present at this meeting.

**LEON WRIGHT, BUILDING AND ZONING OFFICIAL**

Mr. Wright stated that they went down and looked at the boat in Suwannee and FWC had already put it out for bid and that it will be removed shortly.

Mr. Wright said that is all he has for now.

**SCOTT PENDARVIS, 911 COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR  
& I.T. ADMINISTRATOR**

Mr. Pendarvis mentioned the Otter AI transcribing software that was discussed at the last Board Meeting and said that he and the Clerks have been testing it out and feel it would be a great tool to help the Clerks with all of the Meeting Minutes.

He stated it is compliant and passed the cyber security check and it is below the cost threshold for Department Heads to make the purchase decision. He is requesting we get the Enterprise Plan that does not have recording time restrictions.

Mr. Joey Landers with the Dixie Advocate spoke up saying he uses it and it is 90 – 95% accurate the first time through as long as no one is talking over each other. He explained that it records and transcribes simultaneously, the program separates it out by speaker and then provides a summary.

**Commissioner Hatch made the motion to approve the Otter AI software purchase. Commissioner Storey seconded. Board approved.**

Mr. Pendarvis reminded the Board about the March Private Cyber Security Meeting and how important these meetings are. He asked the Board to consider holding an annual or bi-annual meeting.

**DARIAN BROWN, DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Chief Brown discussed several matters:

He provided each Board Member with a copy of a report at Commissioner Hatch's request regarding some of the cost savings initiatives that his department has implemented. Chief Brown stated he tried to break them out by year so you could understand them.

- Matheson Air Gas - awarded a grant through DOH to get an oxygen machine. The machine is up and running, got our own cylinders, and we're saving about probably \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00, we were paying \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 per month.
- The Stations eliminated the DISH systems and went to individuals providing their own streaming.
- Recently combined medical waste removal and shredding through a company that does both at a reduced rate saving the EOC several thousand dollars.

- All grants from 2021 to current totaled \$15,694,541.00. These grants kept the department from having to take the funds from the tax base. Some grants were for stations; some are matching grants.
- We are one of the only departments that has all of the state of the art, top of the line equipment, up to date new monitors, which provides us a challenge we never would have thought we would run into, what are we going to request grants for next year. It's a good problem to have for sure.

Chief Brown assured the Board that his department is doing everything they can to cut costs and save money because it is a very expensive department to maintain. He stated that if anyone had any questions he would be happy to sit down and go over it individually if needed.

Upcoming Events:

- Fire Department Staff Christmas Party is Dec. 12, from 6pm to 9pm at EOC Station One, the new fire station. If you plan to attend, please be sure to RSVP
- Christmas in Dixie has been cancelled this year due to the cost of staffing and providing the equipment and just finding the staff to work it. There were also some other large events that conflicted with the date, we were not able to change the date.

The last item for Chief Brown is the HSB Fire agreement that is ready to be signed.

**Commissioner Storey made the motion to approve the agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.**

**GAIL CARTER, INDIGENT CARE**

Mrs. Carter was not present at this meeting.

**HOLLY HOUGHTON, COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT**

Ms. Houghton had nothing to present at this meeting.

**ANGIE CROWLEY, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR**

Ms. Crowley stated she has had multiple requests from department heads and employees that we look at going back from the FSA to the HSA, due to the difficulty of filing the statement of service that is required on each transaction that's done.

Brad Hoard the Managing Partner with US Employee Benefits Services Group, our insurance broker spoke to the Board here is a summary of his speech:

- Mr. Hoard explained the administrative differences between the Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Health Savings Account (HSA) programs. With FSA, the county and its third-party administrator (Optum) are responsible for validating each claim as a qualified expense, requiring employees to provide detailed documentation (such as an itemized bill or insurance explanation of

- benefits, not just a credit card receipt) for every purchase. In contrast, HSA administration and documentation are managed by the individual, not the county.
- Mr. Hoard emphasized that regardless of the TPA used (Optum, Flores, etc.), federal requirements for documentation and verification will not change, and these procedures ensure compliance with IRS rules and protect the county.
  - Mr. Hoard acknowledged the process can be cumbersome and sometimes leads to suspended cards if documentation isn't provided, sharing a personal example of facing a suspended card and the steps required to resolve it.
  - Mr. Hoard advised that training and workplace education on required documentation could help employees navigate the FSA process more smoothly.
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- Mr. Hoard offered ongoing support, recommending that any employees struggling with FSA claims reach out directly for help. They suggested one-on-one assistance, workshops, and walkthroughs to ensure employees understand what's needed and how to resolve claim issues. Their team can work with employees to obtain the correct paperwork and get reimbursements processed, even offering to hold onsite sessions for group support.
  - Throughout, Mr. Hoard remained open to whatever program the county chooses but reinforced that following documentation rules is mandatory to keep the plan compliant and to protect both the county and employees.

**JOHN JENKINS, COUNTY MANAGER**

Action Items:

1. Request Board approval to accept the proposal for legal services for the annual Fire and Solid Waste Assessment with NGN (Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson) Appendix A FY 2025-2026 in the amount of \$29,000.00.

**Motion to request Board approval to accept the proposal for legal services for the annual Fire and Solid Waste Assessment with NGN (Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson) Appendix A FY 2025-2026 in the amount of \$29,000.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

2. Request Board approval to accept the proposal for services for the annual Fire and Solid Waste Assessment with Accenture Appendix B FY 2025-2026 in the amount of \$55,000.00.

**Motion to request Board approval to accept the proposal for services for the annual Fire and Solid Waste Assessment with Accenture Appendix B FY 2025-2026 in the amount of \$55,000.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

3. Request Board to select and prioritize the following 5-year Road Project Plan:
  1. CR 358 from SW 661<sup>st</sup> St to Casey Cove
  2. NE 349<sup>th</sup> Ave, NE 765<sup>th</sup> Ave, NE 356<sup>th</sup> Ave from SR 349 to NE 339<sup>th</sup> Ave
  3. SE 71<sup>st</sup> Ave, SE 265<sup>th</sup> St, SE 269<sup>th</sup> St from CR 351 S to SE 60<sup>th</sup> Ave

**Motion to request Board approval to select and prioritize the following 5-year Road Project Plan: In this order (1) CR 358 from SW 661st St to Casey Cove (2) NE 349th Ave, NE 765th Ave, NE 356th Ave from SR 349 to NE 339th Ave (3) SE 71st Ave, SE 265th St, SE 269th St from CR 351 S to SE 60th Ave made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

4. Request Board approval of the Draw Two SHIP HHRP demo/reconstruction reimbursement for Peter Bregenzer in the amount of \$157,197.33.

**Motion to request Board approval of the Draw Two SHIP HHRP demo/reconstruction reimbursement for Peter Bregenzer in the amount of \$157,197.33 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

5. Request Board approval of the SHIP down payment assistance for Chad Edwards in the amount of \$20,000.00.

**Motion to request Board approval of the SHIP down payment assistance for Chad Edwards in the amount of \$20,000.00 made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

6. Request Board approval to execute the FDACS Mosquito Control Agreement # 33063 for FY 2025-2026 in the amount of \$69,587.50.

**Motion to request Board approval to execute the FDACS Mosquito Control Agreement # 33063 for FY 2025-2026 in the amount of \$69,587.50 made by Commissioner Storey. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.**

7. Request Board approval to execute Resolution 2025-121 for the language FDOT Bridge Delivery & Design Alternatives CR 357 Shired Creek & CR 357 California Swamp bridges.

**Motion to request Board approval to execute Resolution 2025-121 for the language FDOT Bridge Delivery & Design Alternatives CR 357 Shired Creek & CR 357 California Swamp bridges made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

8. Request Board approval to increase the existing Hangar Leases based on Passero recommendations and set New T-Hangars price:
  1. T-Hangar from \$280.00 to \$335.00, an increase of \$55.00
  2. Box Hangar # 1 and # 2 from \$700.00 to \$755.00, an increase of \$55.00
  3. Box Hangar # 3 from \$900.00 to \$955.00, an increase of \$55.00
  4. New T-Hangar # 9, # 10, 11, #12 - \$355.00.

***Motion to request Board approval to increase the existing Hangar Leases based on Passero recommendations and set New T-Hangars price:***

- **T-Hangar from \$280.00 to \$335.00, an increase of \$55.00**
- **Box Hangar # 1 and # 2 from \$700.00 to \$755.00, an increase of \$55.00**
- **Box Hangar # 3 from \$900.00 to \$955.00, an increase of \$55.00**
- **New T-Hangar # 9, # 10, 11, #12 - \$355.00.**

**made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

9. Request Board approval to accept WH Construction LLC as lowest bidder for the Airport Canal & Correctional Institution Stormwater Improvements in the amount \$196,775.00.

**Motion to request Board approval to execute to accept WH Construction LLC as lowest bidder for the Airport Canal & Correctional Institution Stormwater Improvements in the amount \$196,775.00 made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

10. Request Board approval of LPA0279 DCFSM Amendment # 2 reallocating funds from Contractual Services to Miscellaneous/Other Expenses.

**Motion to request Board approval of LPA0279 DCFSM Amendment # 2 reallocating funds from Contractual Services to Miscellaneous/Other Expenses made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

Information Items:

1. Reminder about BOCC Regular Meeting on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 6pm. The 4pm Workshop has been moved to 1pm on Dec. 4, 2025 after the BOCC Regular Meeting at 10am.

**Motion to approve holding the BOCC Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2025, at 4:30pm made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

2. Reminder County offices will be closed Tuesday, November 11, 2025, for Veteran's Day observance.
3. Reminder Legislative Day Friday, November 14, 2025, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, located at the BOCC meeting room.
4. Reminder FREDA Rural Summit in Ocala Wednesday, November 19, 2025 – Friday, Nov 21, 2025.
5. Reminder Cracker House Winery 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas at the Ranch, Saturday, December 13, 2025, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

**Motion to approve \$200 donation for Cracker House Winery 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas at the Ranch, Saturday, Dec 13, 2025, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.**

**Motion to approve \$500 donation for Annual Dixie County Turkey Trot at the Dixie County Managers Office, Thursday, November 27, 2025, 7:00 am made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Storey. Board approved.**

**CHANA WATSON, COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Attorney Watson provided several updates and points of clarification to the Board:

- Announced the agreement with the fire department chief assignment is ready.
- Reported on ongoing negotiations with the Suwannee post office, specifically noting that while most issues are resolved, the post office insists on using a brokerage firm (Jones Lane, La Salle Brokerage Inc.) that charges 4% of the total lease value as a fee, to be paid by the county. Attorney Watson wanted the Board to be aware and to discuss whether to move forward with these terms. Additional lease details were mentioned, such as the schedule of rent increases and renewal options.

**Motion to approve Suwannee Post Office Lease as described, including acceptance of the 4% brokerage fee and other terms made by Commissioner Hatch. Seconded by Commissioner Osteen. Board approved.**

- Informed the Board about another lease for Career Source. Initially, their insurance was listed under Alachua County, but they now have their own. Attorney Watson requested Board approval to amend the agreement, confirming that the county would be listed as an additional insured party and that annual insurance updates would be provided.

**Motion to approve addendum on the Career Source Lease as described made by Commissioner Osteen. Seconded by Commissioner Hatch. Board approved.**

- Attorney Watson confirmed communications with all involved parties and described the process for handling updates, approvals, and notifications related to these agreements.

**BARBIE HIGGINBOTHAM, CLERK OF COURT**

Clerk of Court Barbie Higginbotham provided an update that the county finally received the audit report on Friday afternoon. Guidance from the Division of Business and Professional Regulations recommended we continue with the complaint already filed , which remains in process. Additionally, steps are being taken to hire a new audit firm, with the position having been advertised and the process moving forward.

**COUNTY COMMISSION ITEMS**

Commissioner Hatch

- Discussion centered on a property near Salt Creek with significant funds involved. There are possibilities to secure additional funding for the project without impacting other financial resources. The property has been valuable during hurricanes and is well-used by residents. The Board was asked if they support further efforts with Mr. Jim Ward to secure the property for public benefit, including making it accessible to all county residents if acquired, as there are currently limited public facilities in that area.
- Concerns were raised that the Elevate Florida program is failing to deliver the promised services to local citizens, despite the county investing substantial funds—around \$11 million. The county is urged to review the program, as residents deserve better results from this investment.
- Frustration was expressed over ongoing permitting fees and federal charges for coastal projects during the government shutdown, as services are not being delivered despite continued payments. Commissioner Hatch emphasized that this situation is unfair and aggravating
- Meeting with North Florida Medical Plans are being made to meet with a director to address missing supplements for county services, with the goal of possibly returning administration of these supplements to a local provider, as discussed in previous years.
- Commissioner Hatch stressed the importance of using TVs to display meeting information for transparency and suggested making copies available to anyone who needs them. This approach allows everyone to follow discussions easily and supports open communication with the public.

Attorney Watson

- It was mentioned that a local school property in Suwannee is up for sale, and the community may want to consider acquiring it for use as a public waterfront, offering a potential benefit to the area. They are in the process of getting it appraised.

Commissioner Osteen

- Repairs at Boat Ramp at HSB: There's optimism and urgency about finally starting long-awaited work to improve the local coastal system. The effort has been difficult and slow, but the community is eager to move forward and finish restoring needed services.

Commissioner Storey

- A meeting is being planned with County Manager John Jenkins and Tim Johnson to explore ways to save money on garbage operations, possibly by changing employee hours or closing a facility. The speaker emphasizes that change is necessary—even if unpopular—and that accountability lies with current and future commissioners. Plans include putting up signs at dump sites to inform residents and enforcing rules against illegal dumping.

Chairman Stephenson

- Despite personal challenges, the speaker is actively working to address the County's rock crusher issue, considering whether to repair or purchase equipment—possibly buying a used crusher from Newberry at scrap price. They highlight county-wide efforts to cut costs due to budget shortfalls and stress that these financial challenges are not the fault of current leadership.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

Mr. JD Nobles from Horseshoe Beach, expressed heartfelt thanks to the board, county officials, and staff for their help and partnership in the town's rebuilding efforts. He appreciated the county's participation in joint quarterly meetings, support for projects like the SHIP program which aided local residents, and praised the sense of unity and determination within Horseshoe Beach to rebuild and move forward together.

Mrs. Karen VanAernam: On behalf of Cross City Restore and Renew, Mrs. VanAernam thanked the county for its ongoing support of the annual Turkey Trot. They encouraged everyone to join the community prayer and fun run on Thanksgiving morning at 7:15am at the Dixie County Manager's Office, highlighting its role in bringing the community together. Mrs. VanAernam also detailed Cross City's Christmas decorating schedules for December 1 and December 2 and golf cart parade on December 5 starting at 6pm, inviting public officials and residents to participate. Mrs. VanAernam explained event logistics, promoted opportunities for tax-deductible donations (emphasizing that funds stay local), and underscored the positive impact these efforts have on the downtown area and wider community.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED** that if a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearings, he/ she will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, he/ she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

**“Persons with disabilities requesting reasonable accommodations to participate in this proceeding should contact (352) 486-4931 (Voice & TDD) or via Florida Relay Service at (800) 955-8771.”**

**The Board meets the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 AM and the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. Individuals that would like to be placed on the agenda should call Barbie Higginbotham, Clerk of Court, by 4:00 PM on the Friday Preceding the Board meeting, at (352) 498-1200.**