



DeSoto County

Board of County Commissioners

Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

9:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner JC Deriso
Commissioner Judy Schaefer
Commissioner Steven Hickox
Commissioner Elton Langford
Commissioner Jerod Gross

TURN OFF OR SILENCE ALL CELL PHONES

PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Retired Pastor David Vanaman gave the invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

SET/AMEND

A motion was made by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Langford, to amend the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

PUBLIC FORUM FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ashley Brown Community Outreach Coordinator was excited to announce the end of another successful school year, with a 87% high school graduation rate. She reminded the board of the new VPK and child care programs for the 25-26 school year. She also noted the many volunteer opportunities with Dive Into Reading Program at West Elementary School, on Tuesdays and Thursday reading to children helping to strengthen their reading skills over the summer.

CONSENT AGENDA-MOTION TO APPROVE

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Schaefer, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

1. Minutes/BOCC Public Meeting 05-13-2025

Attachments: [MeetingMinutes 13-May-2025](#)

3. Local Housing Assistance Plan/Technical Revision

Attachments: [LHAP June 2025.pdf](#)

4. **Certification of Participation/51% Letter for the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG-C Grant Program**

Attachments: [Certificate of Participation](#)
 [51% Letter for 6-10-2025](#)

5. **Revised Classification and Pay Plan.**

Attachments: [Classification & Pay Plan 06-10-25](#)
 [Event Manager](#)

6. **Contract Award Amendment/Securitecture, LLC.**

Attachments: [Securitecture, llc](#)
 [First Amendment to Securitecture Agreement \(Jail Conceptual Des](#)
 [- CLEAN with attachment](#)

8. **Declaration of Surplus Property**

Attachments: [Surplus Declared 6-09-25](#)

9. **Sovereignty Submerged Lands Easement-CR 769 Bridge over Horse Creek (Bridge 040022).**

Attachments: [Mailout cover letter](#)
 [A AID 50563 Easement 43207 OGC signed](#)

7. **Policy/Indigent Burial**

Attachments: Indigent Body Complete.pdf
This Policy was pulled.

REGULAR BUSINESS

2. **Accounts and Warrants Drawn Per Schedule of Bills Payable.**

Attachments: [AP Check Report - Warrants 05-13-25 to 05-22-25](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Schaefer, that Accounts and Warrants Drawn Per Schedule of Bills Payable be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Langford, and Gross

Recused: Hickox

10. **Resolution - Revision to the Planning and Zoning Fee Schedule**

Attachments: [2025-05-30 2025-xx Resolution - Ameding Planning Fee Schedule](#)
 [PDZ Fee Schedule Revision on 6.10.25](#)

Misty Servia presented a motion to approve the revised Planning and Zoning fee schedule, adding the fee for Administrative Lot Splits. This request is to add the fee of \$200.00, approved by the Board of County Commissioners on May 27, 2025, to the Planning and Zoning fee schedule.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Hickox, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

Enactment No: 2025-041

11. Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 23PLN109 Between FDEP and DeSoto County

Attachments: [23PLN109 A2 DeSoto County Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment Including Arcadia - For Execution](#)

Justin Smith presented a request to approve Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 23PLN109 between the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and DeSoto County as presented. This amendment revises the date of expiration for the grant funding agreement for the County's Vulnerability Assessment grant from June 30, 2025 to June 30, 2026. It also amends certain deliverables which are produced by our contractor Central Florida Regional Planning Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hickox, seconded by Commissioner Schaefer, to approve the amendment. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

12. Addendum 2 to Interlocal Agreement between Central Florida Regional Planning Council and DeSoto County

Attachments: [CFRPC DeSoto ILA Addendum 2](#)

Justin Smith presented a motion to approve the second Addendum to the Interlocal Agreement between The Central Florida Regional Planning Council and DeSoto County, to assist in the completion of a Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment as presented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Gross, to approve the agreement. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

13. Subrecipient Agreement Between Hope DeSoto, Inc and DeSoto County

Attachments: [Subrecipient Agreement - Hope DeSoto](#)

Justin Smith presented a motion to approve the Subrecipient Agreement Between Hope DeSoto Long Term Recovery Group, Inc and DeSoto County and authorize the Chair or Vice-Chair to sign all related documents in furtherance thereof. An agreement to accept grant funds from Hope DeSoto to aid in the construction of a storage building to house long-term recovery related items.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gross, seconded by Commissioner Schaefer, to approve the agreement. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

14. Joint Use Agreement Between DeSoto County and Hope DeSoto

Attachments: [Joint Use Agreement - Hope DeSoto](#)

Justin Smith presented a motion to approve the Joint Use Agreement Between

DeSoto County and Hope DeSoto Long Term Recovery Group, Inc. as presented. This agreement authorizes Hope DeSoto and the County to jointly utilize the storage building, which the County is going to construct, for housing long term disaster related storage items. It also gives clear guidelines for the use and access of the building. There was further discussion as to location of facility, which will be located at the Turner Center.

A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Gross, to approve the Agreement. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

15. Resolution/Budget Amendment Fiscal Year 2024/2025

Attachments: [Resolution](#)
 [Summary and Narrative](#)
 [2025-101 General Fund-Sheriff](#)
 [2025-102 LIHEAP](#)
 [2025-103 SHIP](#)

Brian Wagner presented a request to adopt a Resolution /Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Schaefer, to adopt the Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

Enactment No: 2025-042

16. Contract Award / Rankel Stillwagon Contracting, LLC / Building Renovation - DCI Water Treatment Facility

Attachments: [RANKEL STILLWAGON CONTRACT 25-14-00](#)
 [25-14-00ITB Bid Tabulation](#)

Greg Harris presented a request for approval of the Contract with Rankel Stillwagon Contracting, LLC, for the building renovation of the DeSoto Correctional Institute's Water Treatment Facility. The County issued ITB No. 25-14-00ITB seeking bids for structural and exterior repairs to the County-owned DCI Water Treatment Facility, a pre-engineered metal building originally constructed in 1970. The building has experienced deterioration due to age and environmental exposure. The renovation will address damaged insulation, wall panels, steel framing members, roof components, and gutters to restore the facility's structural integrity and bring it into compliance with current standards. Five bids were received, and staff conducted reference checks prior to recommending award to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Rankel Stillwagon Contracting, LLC.

A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Gross, to approve the Contract. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

EMERGENCY ITEMS

17. Emergency Contract for Repairs to Fire Station One

Attachments: [SEMCO - Fire 1 Emergency Contract Draft - final with exhibits \(updated\)](#)
[DeSoto FS 1- Proposal- Options](#)

Mandy Hines presented a request to approve an emergency contract with SEMCO Construction to address longstanding condensation issues at Fire Station One that led to mold growth and staff relocation. Despite previous repair efforts, no permanent solution had been found. A mechanical engineer's evaluation revealed negative air pressure, prompting a comprehensive repair plan including upgraded HVAC systems, sealing entry points, and pouring a concrete deck on the second floor. SEMCO's prior experience with the building and current County work made them the preferred contractor. Approval is sought to expedite the contract, targeting completion by September. Mac McMillen, SEMCO Vice President, shared details of the proposal, including warranty and maintenance discussions. A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Gross, to approve the Contract. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross

18. Resolution/Budget Amendment Fiscal Year 2024/2025

Attachments: [Resolution](#)
[Summary and Narrative](#)
[2025-110 Public Safety](#)

Brian Wagner presented a request to adopt a Resolution /Budget Amendment affecting the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Langford, seconded by Commissioner Gross, to adopt the Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Deriso, Schaefer, Hickox, Langford, and Gross
Enactment No: 2025-043

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mandy Hines presented the board with the Annual Report for 2024. She stated there has been a delay in the legislative sessions which have impacted our budget, as we just recently received our Constitutional Budget. She reminded the Board of the upcoming budget workshop dates, and tentative public hearing dates. She also discuss the timeline to adopt a legislative budget and how that may impact the county's financial decisions moving forward. With input from County Engineer Mike Giardullo, she recommended using remaining paving funds to urgently repair Kings Highway and SR 72-an area currently set for DOT improvements in 2027, but in critical need now. She also gave feedback from our community about our exceptional staff.

COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Valerie Vicente County Attorney updated the Board about VC holdings and Ocoola Organics filing a request for relief under the Florida Land Use and Environmental Dispute Resolution Act ("FLUEDRA") stating this law allows Developers/Property Owners who believe that an enforcement action of a governmental entity, is unreasonable or unfairly burdens the use of the owner's real property, to challenge decisions made by local governments that they believe unfairly burdens the use of their property. It provides a faster, more collaborative way to address these disputes through a process called "Mediation and Special Magistrate Proceedings." If the property owner who filed the Request for Relief disagrees with the outcome, the property owner

retains the right to pursue the matter in court. She advised her Firm is in the process of appointing a Special Magistrate.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Commissioner Schaefer thanked staff for all their hard work. Commissioner Hickox wanted to remind everyone to keep our law enforcement officers and first responders in our thoughts and prayers in light of recent events here and across the country. Commissioner Langford expressed his feelings in regards to the upcoming mediation. Commissioner Gross thanked staff and Semco for all the hard work put into the Mills Building. Commissioner Deriso reminded everyone to be extra cautious and mindful that with school out for summer that there will be more kids outside enjoying their time off.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business before the board, Chairman Deriso adjourned the meeting at 9:53 AM

ATTEST: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA

MANDY HINES
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

J.C. DERISO
CHAIRMAN

Boarding Documents 06-10-2025 Public hearing

Attachments: BOCC Non -Agenda Speaker card

NOTE: For quasi-judicial matters, any party desiring a verbatim record of the proceeding of this hearing for the purpose of an appeal is advised to make private arrangements for the production of a record and anyone wishing to present documents or other written evidence to the Board must provide eight (8) copies of the written material . If special accommodations are required in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals should contact the County Administrator's Office by calling 863-993-4800 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.