

MINUTES OF THE EMERGENCY MEETING FOR HURRICANE MICHAEL OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA, HELD AT 305 CECIL G. COSTIN, SR., BLVD., OCTOBER 30, 2018, AT 5:30 P.M.

The following were present: Mayor Patterson, Commissioners Hoffman, Langston, and Lowry. City Manager Jim Anderson, City Clerk Charlotte Pierce, Chief of Police Matt Herring, and Finance Director Michael Lacour, were also present. Attorney Albritton participated by telephone, Commissioner Langston joined the meeting at 5:35 P. M. and Commissioner Ashbrook was absent.

The Purpose of the meeting was to update the Commission on Hurricane Michael recovery efforts.

Call to Order

Agenda

Hurricane Michael

Resolution 2018-12 Local State of Emergency

A Motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, second by Commissioner Hoffman, to extend the Local State of Emergency another 7 days. All in favor; Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Langston joined the meeting at 5:35 P.M.

Gulf County Disaster Recovery Consultant Services – Horne LLP

A Motion was made by Commissioner Hoffman, second by Commissioner Lowry, to join with the county in ratifying Horne LLP as the Consultant Services for the City. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Building Department Update

Willie Payne stressed the need for residents to get permits and a certified contractor before beginning work on their homes. He noted that inspections of homes has begun and noted that all plugs and wiring that came in contact with salt water would have to be replaced.

Salvation Army Update

Laurie Fried, Emergency Disaster Service requested that the Washington Gym be designated as a storage Distribution Center where supplies could be housed. A Motion was made by Commissioner Langston, second by Commissioner Lowry, to designate the Washington Gym as a Distribution site for 60 days. All in favor; Motion carried 4-0.

Chester Davis and Dannie Bolden expressed their appreciation for the support of the Salvation Army, their programs, and the local volunteers that have been working at the Washington Gym.

FEMA Update

Brenda Gustafson of FEMA updated the Commission on shelter counts, noted a job portal has been opened for displaced workers, and shared the D-SNAP Program starts tomorrow. She also noted that COBRA homes are not covered by FEMA, TSA has been turned on, and FEMA is working with the state on NFIP maps.

Utilities Update

Mr. Anderson noted the Boil Water Notice has been lifted for the City of Port St. Joe, Oak Grove, and White City. All other areas are still under the Boil Water Notice.

City crews are making repairs to the sewer lines on the cape.

EOC Update – Chief Herring noted that ten deputies from other counties are patrolling each shift, the City has been self-sufficient since October 15, 2018, and the curfew may be lifted tomorrow. Chief Herring also shared that Halloween festivities will be held at Port St. Joe Elementary School tomorrow at 5:30 P.M.

Consensus of the Commission was that today's meeting should be continued to Thursday, November 1, 2018, at 5:30 P.M.

The following individuals gave updates from their respective entities:

Jonas Ballreich – Volunteer Coordinator for Gulf County
Cathy Christo - Red Cross
Jim Muilenburg - US Army Corps of Engineer

Citizens to be Heard

Phil Earley asked if the Building Department was open to secure building permits.

George R. Kelley requested clarification of permits, and questioned what would be done concerning mold that is coming from other houses. For mold issues, Mr. Kelley was encouraged to contact the Building Department.

Hayes Woodward stated that for rebuilding purposes, he understood the property value would be market value before Hurricane Michael.

Commissioner Hoffman emphasized that the City would do what they could to help resident rebuild but that the FL Statutes and FL Building Code must be followed.

Consensus of the Board was to have a joint Workshop with the City and County Building Departments.

Rhonda Woodward shard that she felt there should be a better way to get information to residents as all of them do not use internet and website sites.

It was noted that the dumpster at the Scout Hut is a mess and needs help. Chester Davis stated WastePro is working on the issues and are back on schedule even though they are a little behind.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Hoffman noted that all of his concerns had been addressed and the Centennial Building will remain open until all needs of the citizens are met.

Commissioner Lowry requested that the City and County meet on FEMA Purchases and Reimbursements.

Commissioner Lowry did not have anything else to discuss.

Mayor Patterson commended everyone on their efforts during Hurricane Michael and noted we have come a long way in three weeks.

The meeting was recessed at 6:40 P.M.

Approved this 20th day of November 2018.


James "Bo" Patterson, Mayor

11/21/18
Date


Charlotte M. Pierce, City Clerk

11/26/18
Date