**Board of County Commissioners**

**Agenda Request**

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| Date of Meeting: | November 2, 2015 |
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| Date Submitted: | October 29, 2015  |
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| To:  | Members of the Board |
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| From:  | Ralph Thomas, County Commissioner, District 1 |
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| Subject: | Request Board Approval to Waive the Rental Fee for Hudson Park, for the 10th Annual Community Feast on November 21, 2015 |

**Statement of Issue:**

This agenda item requests Board approval to waive the rental fee for Hudson Park, for the 10th annual Community Feast on November 21, 2015.

**Background:**

This event started in 2006 at Hallowed Be Thy Name Church of God with assistance from other churches in the community. In 2009, the event was moved to the Livestock Pavilion where it was held for 3 years. As participation continued to grow, more room was needed. The event was moved to Hudson Park in 2012.

In the first year at Hudson Park approximately 600 people were served. The following year more than 1000 were served.  Last year's event recorded the following statistics in spite of rain:

1. 1000 meals served at the park
2. 150 meals delivered to shut-in
3. 70 registered volunteers participated (high school and college students, Boy's and Girl's Scout, local individuals, Sheriff Explorers)
4. 20 non-profit organizations and County Offices participated (BOCC-Commissioners, Big Bend Hospice, Neighborhood Medical Center, Bond Community Health Center, EMS, Fire Department, Sheriff's Office, Wakulla Health Department, Capital Area Community Action Center, One Blood, and others)
5. 30 Churches were represented

**Analysis:**

This event is free to the public and funded through donations from churches, organizations, business discounts, and private citizens. It fosters a wonderful spirit of fellowship among our neighbors. It brings together people from different religious denominations, races, ethnic groups, age groups, and socioeconomic statuses. The growth of this event demonstrates the willingness for our community to come together to serve each other and enjoy each other’s fellowship. We are blessed to live in a community that still places a value on serving our neighbors.

**Budgetary Impact:**

None

**Options:**

1. Approve to waive the rental fee for Hudson Park, for the 10th Annual Community Feast on November 21, 2015.

2. Do not approve the rental fee for Hudson Park, for the 10th Annual Community Feast on November 21, 2015.

3. Board Direction.

**Recommendation:**

Option #1.

**Attachment(s):**

None