



**Levy County Board of County Commissioners**  
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**Press Release:**

H.A. White Gymnasium

**Date of Issue:**

February 6, 2025

The Levy County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) purchased the former Bronson High School from the Levy County School Board for \$1.5 Million in 2018. The former high school has been repurposed as Levy County Government Complex.

The H.A. White Gymnasium is located on the Government Center Complex's property next to the Maintenance Department. It was in poor condition when the BoCC purchased the complex and has continued to deteriorate since then.




The following are pictures of some of the observed problems.


Picture	Description
	<p>Tiles and insulation from the ceiling have become wet and fallen.</p>



**Commissioners**

- Charlie Kennedy, District 1
- Rock Meeks, District 2
- Desiree Mills, Chair, District 3
- Tim Hodge, Vice Chair, District 4
- Johnny Hiers, District 5

Picture	Description
	<p>Insulation inside the walls of the basketball court has gotten wet and fallen off the metal walls.</p>
	<p>The carpet inside the room next to the basketball court has gotten wet and developed a significant mold problem.</p>
	<p>The roof has developed a leak, resulting in the plywood sheathing becoming wet and moldy and falling down.</p>

Picture	Description
	<p>The upper walls of the gymnasium are metal, which has corroded. The corroded metal is deteriorating. The yellow arrow in this picture points to daylight visible around the window where the metal has rusted away from the window, creating a gap. This is happening in multiple places in the gym. If not addressed, the windows will eventually fall out of the walls and could hurt someone.</p>

The gymnasium is in disrepair due to a lack of maintenance in recent decades. Now that water is entering the building from multiple locations, it is deteriorating rapidly.

During the February 4, 2025 BoCC Meeting, the County Manager Mary-Ellen Harper requested direction from the BoCC regarding next steps. Potential options included identifying funding and designing plans to repair and renovate the building to meet current building codes or demolish the building.

The County Manager received an estimate from a contractor of \$1.4 million to repair and renovate the building to meet current codes. This estimate was provided to give the commissioners a ball-park idea of the project's cost so they could decide whether to hire an architect, create plans, and then go out to bid for the renovation. The County Manager suggested that if the BoCC is not interested in funding the repair and replacement of the building, consideration should be given to demolishing it, as its condition will only continue to deteriorate due to the water leaks.

After receiving a significant amount of public comment, the BoCC voted 4-0 to demolish rather than repair and renovate the gym.