

REGULAR WORKSHOP

JANUARY 28, 1991

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, met in a regular workshop session on Monday, January 28, 1991, at 8:00 A. M., in the County Commission Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board Members were present: Chairman Sam Pridgen, Commissioner Gordon Porter, Commissioner Wilson Holley, and Commissioner Robert G. Fleet. The County's Administrative Supervisor, Mr. Ronnie E. Bell, was also present. Vice-Chairman W.F. Miles was absent due to a prior commitment.

Chairman Pridgen opened the workshop for discussions.

Discussion followed regarding the proposed fee increase for Birth Certificate copies as requested by the Walton County Health Department.

Commissioner Fleet opened discussion on the petition to abandon Magnolia Drive in Criglar Point Subdivision. Mr. Bell made a video presentation regarding Magnolia Drive and the bay access. Commissioner Fleet stated that he is willing to consider abandoning a portion of the easement if the petitioners are willing to pay current market value for that portion.

Commissioner Fleet advised that the Walton County Chamber of Commerce and the Walton County Tourist Development Council are planning a "celebration" when the new Choctawhatchee Bay Bridge is opened.

Commissioner Fleet advised of a Public Hearing regarding the Pea River project in Chipley at 1:00 P.M. on January 30, 1991. He submitted a newspaper article from the Tampa Tribune for the Board's review.

Mr. Bell provided the Board with copies of the Florida Litter Law. The Board can designate any County employee as an Environmental Officer. Mr. Bell further stated that Judge Lewis R. Lindsey advised that the County would have greater leverage for enforcing stiffer fines for violators if more adequate signs were posted at each green box site. The signs should remind the citizens that tags on garbage bags are required and also should advise the citizens of the County's intent to enforce the Florida Litter Law and County ordinances.

Commissioner Fleet stated that he would like to continue the

County's recycling program. He believes that the citizens are willing to pay for it.

Commissioner Holley requested that Mr. Ronnie Hudson, Public Works Director, provide the Board with information of how much waste was going into the Landfill before implementing the recycling program versus how much waste has been going into it since the recycling program.

Mr. Hudson advised that the greatest reduction in the Landfill has been the removal of Construction and Demolition debris and tires.

Commissioner Porter suggested combining some green box sites and opening them for dumping only on specific days. A supervisor to "man" the boxes could be rotated between the sites.

Commissioner Holley questioned the possibility of cleaning up the illegal dumping sites throughout the County and blocking off unused County roads to prevent further dumping in the woods.

Mr. Bell stated that Judge Lindsey recommends posting as many signs as possible throughout the County regarding the enforcement of Florida law and County ordinance regarding littering. Also Mr. Bell advised that the Department of Environmental Regulations (DER) is very concerned about how the new Landfill building will be used.

Commissioner Fleet recommended that the franchise haulers should be allowed to subcontract the supervision of the green box sites as was previously proposed. In this manner, the County would be out of the "garbage business." Commissioner Holley agreed.

Mr. Hudson recommended putting locks on the gates of the drop boxes to prevent individuals from entering the boxes to scavenge from the inside.

Commissioner Porter stated that he is not prepared to turn over the supervision of the drop boxes to private enterprises as of yet.

Lengthy discussion continued.

The Board agreed to schedule a workshop on the County's nuisance ordinance.

Mr. Bell advised that Mr. Miller has drafted an emergency amendment to Ordinance 87-2 authorizing the County to issue fines for illegal dumping. Brief discussion followed.

Mr. Bell stated that Mr. Mike Barker, Civil Defense Director, has requested that the Board appoint two individuals from each District to sit on a committee to name roads within the County and assist with the E-911 addressing program.

Mr. Bell stated that Mr. Ted Locke has been providing lawn care for the Courthouse and Courthouse annex. Mr. Bell has been unable to locate a contract with Mr. Locke. Mr. Charles McMillian, Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor, advised that he and his crew could provide lawn care with minimal additional equipment.

Commissioner Holley advised that he could not vote for the fee increase for Birth Certificate copies.

Mr. Bell advised of two agreements to be renewed. Also there is a proposed agreement with D & G Salvage and a proposed reciprocal agreement between DOT and the County for a mutual waiver of permit fees.

General discussion regarding various items on the agenda followed.

Mrs. Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, advised of two plats coming before the Board for approval in the regular meeting of January 29, 1991. She further advised that she will supply copies of the County's Land Development Regulations at a later date.

Mr. Hudson informed the Board that the Department of Environmental Regulations has advised Barrett, Daffin, and Carlan that the County may use clay only to stabilize the walls of high-rising the Landfill instead of bentonite. Mr. Hudson further advised that DOT-approved road signs can be ordered from DOT at a substantially lower cost. Discussion followed regarding vandalism of County signs.

The Board agreed to schedule a workshop with Environmental Waste Systems and Dayco Disposal for Monday, February 4, 1991, at 8:00 A.M.

Commissioner Porter advised that the property owners in Lake Sharon want the dam repaired. Commissioner Porter asked if the County has accepted responsibility for the dam. He advised that he has been unable to find anything stating that fact. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Porter advised that District 4 was overdrawn in the Professional Services account before he ever took office. He asked for the Board's recommendations on what to do in this matter.

Mrs. Martha Ingle, Chief Deputy Clerk, reviewed the letters to the Board.

The Industrial Development Authority is in need of two new appointees. Mr. Ben Whittington's and Mr. Luther Ates' terms expire in February.

Commissioner Fleet advised that the Airport will be requesting that the Board approve the airport site selection of the Airport Authority. Commissioner Fleet further advised that he will never vote for money to go to an airport.

Commissioner Fleet recommended that County occupational licenses should be required of individuals in business.

Mrs. Ingle advised of a letter from the Department of Revenue informing the Board of the shortfall in State funds coming to the County this year.

Chairman Pridgen adjourned the workshop.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Sam Pridgen, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Catherine King, Clerk