

FEBRUARY 10, 1997

WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, met in a workshop on February 10, 1997, at 8:30 A.M.

The following Board members were present: Chairman William Young, Vice-Chairman Van Ness Butler, Jr., Commissioner Gordon Porter, Commissioner Joel Paul, Jr. and Commissioner Randall Infinger. Also present was Mr. Ronnie Bell, Administrative Supervisor.

Chairman Young called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Prayer.

Mr. Bill Robinson, United Way Executive Director, appeared before the Board requesting approval to relocate the United Way Office behind the Walton County Agriculture/Canning & Farmers Market on Highway 331 South. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Dewey Wilson, Regional Utilities Manager, appeared before the Board requesting that a workshop be held to discuss the operations of Regional Utilities. Mr. Wilson suggested that the workshop be scheduled on February 27, 1997 at 1:00 P.M. at the Tourist Development Council Building.

Mr. Malcolm Patterson, Tourist Development Council Director, appeared before the Board requesting approval for the purchase of envelopes from Armstrong Printing in the amount of \$5,614.00. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Patterson also requested approval from the Board to to advertise for bids for a new beach maintenance truck. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Patterson requested conceptual approval of the New Bay Park located on U.S. 331 at the Choctawhatchee Bay. Mr Patterson presented computer generated 3-D diagrams of the project. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Patterson requested authorization to proceed with the abandonment of an easement located on the north side of Highway 30-A at Seaside. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Reese Rainey, representing Frazier Lanier Company investment bankers located in Montgomery, Alabama, appeared before the Board to discuss the County's capital projects for the upcoming year. Mr. Rainey requested

permission to work with the Clerk to discuss different options that are available to the County.

Mr. Bobby Ammons, Assistant Public Works Director, appeared before the Board to present bids for grinding of debris at the Landfill. Mr. Ammons recommended that the Board accept the lowest bid from Young's Contracting. The grinding of the debris will be paid out of the Recycling Grant. The Board waived the bidding process.

Mr. Ammons requested authorization to advertise for bids to purchase a frontend loader for the Landfill. The loader will be paid from Recycling Grant funds. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Ammons advised the Board that he has received a right-of-entry agreement from Ms. Connie Bailey. The easement was obtained to do repair work on private property due to damage caused by water drainage from Chat Holley Road. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Ammons advised the Board that he has received a right-of-entry agreement from Mr. Harold Connelly to perform repair work on property located on Howell Bluff. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Ammons also advised the Board that debris was being stolen from the clay pit. The Board authorized Mr. Ronnie Bell to advertise that the clay pits and work areas of the County will be posted and restricted. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Albert Milton, a representative of GRIT, the County's workers' compensation carrier, appeared before the Board to discuss the Walton County Drug Free Workplace Policy.

Ms. Sue Carter, Tax Collector, appeared before the Board to advise that her department will accept the drug free workplace policy if it is written on her office letterhead.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to approve the adoption of the drug free workplace policy in Walton County.

Commissioner Butler advised the Board that he has been informed by Charles McMillan, Maintenance Supervisor, that the Courthouse Annex in South Walton was ready for county offices to be occupied.

Mr. Dan Bodiford recommended to the Board that cost estimated be discussed at the next workshop scheduled for February 24, 1997.

Mr. Mamud Rashied appeared before the Board to discuss the appointment of the local WAGES Board. Commissioner Paul stated that he felt it would be

a conflict for him to serve on the JEP Board since he is an employee of Okaloosa-Walton Community College. Commissioner Paul advised that he felt that the Chairman of the County Commissioners should be on the JEP Board.

Commissioner Paul further stated that the Commissioners will need to have in writing their concerns that they have expressed to the JEP Board before a letter of support can be issued by the Commissioners.

Ms. Mary Lou Reed recommended that a representative from the Jobs and Education Partnership (JEP) Board attend Board workshops at least once a month to make a presentation of activities conducted by the JEP Board. Ms. Reed also submitted a letter to the Board requesting to designate the JEP Board as the WAGES Board. Commissioner Porter requested that Ms. Reed submit a brief description of each Board and their function.

Ms. Kassy Keyes appeared before the Board to discuss the New Towncenter and the Conservation Development & Trust Plan. Ms. Keyes presented a summary on each project. Ms. Keyes advised the Board that the Governor and the Cabinet will be voting on February 11, 1997 in reference to the CARL List. Ms. Keyes urged the Board members to be present at the vote in support of the New Towncenter. Ms. Keyes also presented a proposed letter to the Board asking for assistance from the Department of Environmental Protection in developing a disposition plan for the New Towncenter.

Mr. Clayton Adkinson, on behalf of Walton Regional Hospital, appeared before the Board requesting that a Board member or Mr. Ronnie Bell travel with the hospital, at the hospital's expense, to Washington D.C. to express the County's support of the new hospital. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

The Board recessed for lunch.

Mr. Steve Hall, of Hall & Runnels, appeared before the Board to present a draft of the proposed Land Development Code and gave a brief overview.

Ms. Valerie Simmons appeared before the Board to express her concerns that she had understood that Inlet Beach was now zoned residential and the businesses in the area would be unable to expand. Ms. Shirl Williams advised the Board that she was not aware of the area being rezoned.

Ms. Collette Edwards appeared before the Board and expressed her concerns over the zoning now being residential. Ms. Edwards also stated that she felt this was done without residents in the area being advised of the situation.

Commissioner Porter advised that numerous meetings and two public

hearings had been held concerning that land use.

Ms. Marie Garrett, of Garrett Realty, appeared before the Board and stated that she felt the Planning Department was understaffed and was doing their job to the best of their ability.

Ms. Maxine Sharp, a business owner on Highway 30-A, appeared before the Board to voice her concern with the zoning of the area.

Mr. Bradford Johnson appeared before the Board to ask whether or not he would be grandfathered under the old comprehensive plan or would he fall under the new comprehensive plan. Mr. Johnson questioned why the County did not have a County Engineer on staff.

Ms. Latilda Verhine, of the Planning Department, stated that Mr. Johnson would not be grandfathered because he is wanting to expand his business.

Mr. Leonard Matthews appeared before the Board and questioned if property owners are notified of the rezoning of an area. Commissioner Paul stated that the public is notified by advertisements in the paper and the radio.

Mr. Rob Seldin and Mr. Avie Jazayeri appeared before the Board to express their concerns with the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Ronnie Bell advised the Board that he had received a letter from Mr. Harvey Tipler, attorney for Glory Brown.

Mr. Bell advised the Board he had received a notice of a meeting titled Gang Training Workshop and Townhall Symposium that is scheduled for February 15, 1997, at the DeFuniak Springs Civic Center.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of a letter from Mr. Bill Moats of SunTrust Bank regarding the availability of the Sun Bank on Main Street.

Mr. Bell advised the Board that he received applications from Mr. Matt Douglass, EME Director, for approval to hire two part-time Paramedics and two part-time Emergency Medical Technicians.

Mr. Dan Bodiford presented a financial analysis of the cost of adding a new EMS crew for Walton County. The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to authorize Mr. Dan Bodiford and Mr. Ronnie Bell to prepare a budget amendment.

The Board agreed to conduct a study to determine if 7% increase in runs require 14% increase in costs for Emergency Medical Services over the next month. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised the Board that he received a letter from Ms. Martha

Wehbe regarding a drainage problem on Shore Drive and that Ms. Wehbe requested that each Commissioner be given a copy of her letter since she had not received a response.

Mr. Bell advised the Board that he received a letter from Mr. Robert Dobson, President of the Walton County EDC, regarding the decision that the EDC is under the Sunshine Laws.

Mr. Bell informed the Board that he received a letter from Mr. George Ralph Miller, County Attorney, regarding the problem with the John Smith Water System located in Villa Tasso and Choctaw Beach area.

Mr. Bell advised of a request to adopt a Resolution designating the week of February 23, 1997 thru March 1, 1997, as "Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Awareness Week". The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of an Interlocal Agreement, between Walton County and the South Walton Fire District, that would allow them to obtain fuel for fire equipment from the District 5 Road Department. The Board agreed to enter into the agreement if the County has the capacity to do so.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of the registration form for the Legislative Day if any member is interested in attending.

Mr. Bell advised the Board that he received a recommended change order from the engineer on the Old Jolly Bay Road Bridge. This change order would eliminate the requirement for a performance and payment bond, saving \$2,938.69. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised that he received a letter from Ms. James regarding the support of the Coastal Library to locate within the New Towncenter.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of a request from the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association to adopt a Resolution supporting HB 103. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of a request from the Walton County 4-H Club for funds in the amount of \$550 for lodging of volunteers and equipment to attend the State 4-H Horse Judging Contest held at Florida State Fair. This event will be held on February 7, 1997 through February 9, 1997 in Tampa. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Mr. Bruce Ward of the County Extension Office to authorize the Walton County Extension Service to loan two surplus personal computers to the OWCC Americorps Program. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of a recommendation from the Dental Committee for their review regarding the employee dental plan.

The Board agreed to advertise for a public hearing to consider the renewal of the franchise for Cablevision. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to approve repair work on private property owned by Connie Bailey that was damaged by water run off of Chat Holley Road. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Dan Bodiford advised the Board that he received a check from Mr. Gerald Wilkerson for mileage reimbursements in the amount of \$7,239.56. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda for approval.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda approval for payment of an invoice from Okaloosa Asphalt for paving McKinnon Bridge Road in the amount of \$26,486.16.

Mr. A.G. McKee appeared before the Board requesting the Board to control hunters from allowing dogs to run loose and block public roads.

Ms. Connie Johnson appeared before the Board to request that neighbors keep their dogs chained up.

Mr. Dan Tomsik appeared before the Board to discuss the dog leash law. Mr. Tomsik also advised that voice command is useless and that dogs should not be allowed on the beach.

Ms. Lois Wells appeared before the Board and stated that the reason she lives in South Walton is because of the fact that she can take on her dogs.

Ms. Judy Patterson appeared before the Board and advised that she has kept records over the last four years of neighbors dogs that have been allowed to run loose in her neighborhood.

Ms. Joan Sorrells appeared before the Board and stated that dogs should be controlled by their owners and that the Ordinance needs to be carefully considered by the Board.

Mr. Harry Riley appeared before the Board and stated that dogs are running loose and that something needs to be done about the problem.

Ms. Kitty Crosby appeared before the Board and advised of a problem she has been having with her neighbors dogs.

Ms. Melinda Watson appeared before the Board and advised that the Humane Society has a very small budget and that there is only one employee on staff for the entire County. Ms. Watson stated that if the leash law is passed the Humane Society cannot bear the cost.

Commissioner Infinger stated that if the Ordinance is passed that the County will help with the funding.

Mr. Harve Schatner appeared before the Board questioning if the Humane Society is required to have a written complaint before a dog can be picked up. Mr. Schatner suggested that the current Ordinance be amended and let the public know that the Humane Society has the authority to pick up animals.

Mr. Harry Riley recommended that all animals be licensed and checked for vaccinations.

Ms. Patsy Register, Animal Control Officer, recommended that the Humane Society have an extra driver and truck. One driver would handle the everyday problems and the other driver would work a specific area each day to pick up the animals running loose.

Mr. Arlan Smith appeared before the Board and stated that the County needs a leash law on the beach. Mr. Smith also stated that voice command does not work.

Ms. Patty Warren appeared before the Board and stated that she was upset with her neighbors blaming her dogs for waste on the beach.

Ms. Shirl Williams presented the Board with a list of current beach permit holders and the problems they have been having with the vendors.

The Board agreed to terminate the issuance of beach vendor and beach vehicle permits until a permit issuance can be addressed.

This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Butler requested the Board authorize him to receive a right-of-entry agreement from Ms. Helen Thompson to clean up private property at Point Washington. Mr. Bell advised that the County could do the work and charge the cost to the owner.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval for District 1 to remove stumps at the 4-H Arena located on Highway 90 and Kidd Road.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval of repair work to Ms. Frances Barrett's property that was damaged by water off caused by a county road.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval of repair work on private property owned by Ms. Hazel Carnley located in the Childrens Home Community.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval of a request by Mr. George Barns to use Highway 30-A for a runner's roadrace that

is scheduled for March 4, 1997 between 8:45 and 9:45 A.M.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval for Earl Robinson and Rusty Floyd to attend a continuing education seminar for Landfill supervisors scheduled in Fort Walton Beach on March 4, 1997.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval of two years of funds totalling \$6,000.00 to monitor a mitigation area and supply DEP with the required mitigation reports for Driftwood Estates.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval to utilize funds in the amount of \$49,827.90 for a soil stabilization program on Harborview Road and Shipwreck Road at entrance to Driftwood Estates.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda the approval to utilize the remainder of funds to place sod on the shoulder of a roadway within Driftwood Estates.

Commissioner Butler advised the Board that he has been requested to deliver dirt to Helen McCall Park for the Little League.

Mr. Bell presented the Commissioners with a list of all County employees, their positions, and salary.

The Board adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

APPROVED: _____

William A. Young, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk