

FEBRUARY 10, 2015-WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Public Workshop on February 10, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at the Walton County Courthouse Annex in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Bill Imfeld, Chairman; Commissioner Sara Comander, Vice Chairman; Commissioner W. N. (Bill) Chapman; Commissioner Cecilia Jones; and Commissioner Cindy Meadows. Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator; was also present.

Chairman Imfeld called the workshop to order.

Mr. Jones presented the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Strategic Goals and Funding Priorities, for both State and Federal projects for review and ranking. He presented information on the 2013-2015 State and Federal Appropriations Priorities reporting which amounts have been received and those that are still pending.

Chairman Imfeld addressed the 2014 State Appropriations Priorities and the goals that were accomplished. He voiced gratitude to all that were instrumental in reaching those goals and getting the needed funding.

Chairman Imfeld felt that stormwater should be one of the top priorities and requested that each Commissioner present their top five projects.

Commissioner Meadows requested that the following items be added to the priorities list: recycling facility, Coastal Dune Lake bridges repair, replace septic tanks on the Coastal Dune Lakes and Choctawhatchee Bay, paving all dirt roads that drain into the Choctawhatchee Bay and the Coastal Dune Lakes, and a senior center for south Walton. She presented her top five projects: 1. Drainage improvements throughout the county, 2. Overlay of C.R. 30A, 3. Coastal

Dune Lake bridges repair, 4. Paving all dirt roads draining into the Choctawhatchee Bay and the Coastal Dune Lakes, and 5. Water and sewer along U.S. 331.

Commissioner Jones presented her top five projects: 1. Drainage improvements throughout the county, 2. Water and sewer along U.S. 331, 3. Sewer to the Choctawhatchee Bay area residents, 4. Rural health clinics, and 5. Overlay of C.R. 30A. She said that she would also like to see U.S. 331 expanded to four-lanes all the way to the Alabama line. Chairman Imfeld stated that the U.S. 331 expansion is one of the TPO priorities.

Discussion ensued on the rural health clinics and the amount of citizens using the facilities.

Commissioner Chapman discussed the need to pave the dirt roads which would affect the Bay and Coastal Dune Lake areas. He presented his top five priorities: 1. Drainage improvements throughout the county, 2. Water and sewer along U.S. 331, 3. Sewers in the Choctawhatchee Bay residential area, 4. Rural health clinic to include the construction of a clinic in the Eucheeanna Valley, and 5. Coastal Dune Lake bridge and culvert issues. He briefly discussed the need for a potable water system within the Douglas Crossroads community and the lack of funding availability for the system. Chairman Imfeld stated that there have been recent developments which would allow funding for modifications and improvements to existing wells to improve the quality of the water. He felt that staff should explore this avenue of funding.

Commissioner Comander presented her top five projects: 1. Drainage improvements throughout the county, 2. Water and sewer along U.S. 331, 3. Sewer to the Choctawhatchee Bay and Coastal Dune Lakes residents, 4. Broadband accessibility throughout Walton County rural areas, and 5. Paving dirt roads which drain into the Choctawhatchee Bay and the Coastal Dune Lakes.

Chairman Imfeld listed his top five priorities: 1. Drainage improvements throughout the county, 2. Overlay of C.R. 30A, 3. Expansion of rural health clinic to include the extension of days being provided to both Paxton and Mossy Head, 4. Water and sewer along U.S. 331, and 5. Paving all dirt roads which drain into the Choctawhatchee Bay and the Coastal Dune Lakes.

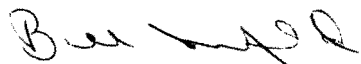
There were no public comments.


Commissioner Meadows asked that the remaining priorities be listed behind the top five in case there are grants which may come available for those projects. Mr. Jones stated that all the projects will be represented appropriately.

The priorities presented by the Commissioners were ranked. The final top five priorities are as follows: 1. Drainage improvements throughout the county, 2. Water and sewer along U.S. 331, 3. Sewer to the Choctawhatchee Bay and Coastal Dune Lake area residents, 4. Rural health clinics to include expansions as discussed, and 5. Paving dirt roads which drain into the Choctawhatchee Bay and the Coastal Dune Lakes. Chairman Imfeld asked if the priorities should be set on a two year basis as it has been done in the past. The Board concurred.

Commissioner Chapman announced that he and Mr. Cliff Knauer, Preble-Rish, will be traveling to Tallahassee to meet with FDOT regarding the funding for the paving of the dirt roads.

There being no further items to discuss, the workshop was adjourned.

Approved: 
Bill Imfeld, Chairman

Attest: 
Alex Alford, Clerk of Court and County Comptroller