

WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 22, 1999

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Workshop on Monday, February 22, 1999, at 8:30 a.m., in the Commission Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following members were present: Chairman Joel Paul, Jr., Vice-Chairman Van Ness Butler, Jr., Commissioner Gene Ryan, Commissioner Randall Infinger, and Commissioner Herman Walker. Ronnie E. Bell, Administrative Supervisor, and Mr. Dan Bodiford, Clerk of Courts, were also present.

Chairman Paul called the meeting to order followed by pledging allegiance to the American Flag and prayer.

Mrs. Suedelle Wilkerson, Finance Supervisor, presented the Expenditure Approval List consisting of the following bills:

General Fund	\$ 115,719.30
County Transportation Trust	50,299.11
Mosquito Control	1,315.95
Library	5,032.40
Recreation Plat Fee	322.59
Solid Waste Enterprise	96,909.88
Mossy Head VFD	730.27
Glendale VFD	29.38
Darlington VFD	20.56
Liberty VFD	381.78
Red Bay VFD	161.24
TDC/AmSouth	29,510.04
SHIP	189.00
Driftwood Debt Service	370.95
Section 8 Housing	152.70

The Commissioners approved the payment of bills as presented and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Commissioners approved the following bills for payment and placed them on the consent agenda.

Teal and Water - South Walton property appraisal	\$275.00
Car Quest - Mossy Head VFD, engine	\$2,176.65
W.Co. Sheriff - 911 map booklets	\$4,400.00
Couch Construction - CR 393 and CR 30A	196,518.63
Couch - District 2/3 Brown Road	85,331.81
Couch - District 3	9,145.79
Couch - District 2, Mathews Road	82,461.27
South Walton Little League	1,000.00

Mr. Mike Richards of Chelco, appeared before the Commissioners regarding the setbacks on CR 30A. Mr. Richards suggested that a procedure be drafted which requires approval by a committee. The Commissioners approved for the Utility Committee to continue reviewing a procedure regarding the 30A guidelines and present a recommendation to the Commissioners at a later date.

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This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board authorized Chairman Paul's signature on the Disaster Relief Funding Agreement. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Nelson Miner, County Engineer, informed the Board that the paving bid on CR1087 has been cancelled and will be rebid. Commissioner Infinger requested Mr. Miner direct the bridge crew to begin work on Long Road Bridge.

Mr. Miner requested approval to draft the specifications and advertise for the purchase of six (6) trucks. Commissioner Infinger directed Mr. Miner to look at the available equipment at Marianna Surplus before purchasing any new vehicles.

Mr. Robin McDonald, Albert Milton, and Rick Hart, representing GRIT Insurance, appeared before the Commissioners and presented an overview of the workman's compensation program. Mr. Milton stated that Walton County's premium has been reduced from \$400,000.00 the first year to approximately \$275,000.00. Mr. McDonald explained that the loss ratio is becoming lower due to a fewer number of claims. Discussion was also held regarding pre-employment drug testing and random drug testing.

The Commissioners recessed briefly.

Mr. George Russell, Institute for Senior Professionals (ISP), and Mr. Al Donaldson, Founding President, presented an overview of services offered by ISP of Okaloosa-Walton Community College. Mr. Donaldson explained that his group works for private and governmental agencies as consultants to assist with problem solving and works for a pro-bono fee.

Mr. Wally Bair, South Walton Community Council, appeared before the Commissioners and presented a background on density in Infill areas. Mr. Bair explained that developers are choosing to use the density bonus program, which appears to be creating problems, when the property is divided by a roadway and the developer chooses to place all of the development on the beach side. Mr. Bair stated that South Walton residents would like to see the density limited to 4 base units per acre in Infill area and banish the bonus system.

Mr. Dewey Wilson, President of Florida Community Services requested payment in the amount of \$128,115.14 which is the second payment for the special appropriation of the Florida Legislature. The Commissioners approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bill Kennedy and Phillip Jones, Preble-Rish, appeared before the

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Commissioners regarding the 20 year master plan for Regional Utilities sewer system and lift station. Mr. Kennedy explained that the system was based on several factors, one being current needs. Land use, planned projects, and population growth for a 20 year period were also taken into consideration. The Board approved the 20 year water and sewer Master Plan for Regional Utilities. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Robert Lee, of The Howard Group, appeared before the Commissioners and explained that they are constructing sidewalks along U.S. Highway 98 from Bayside to Silver Sands Outlet Center. However, there is a 600 foot portion east of Silver Sands where there is no existing sidewalk. Mr. Lee requested the Commissioners fund the project at an approximate cost of \$20,000.00 which The Howard Group has paid for the cost of permits and design for that portion. Commissioner Butler advised that he will be meeting with the Department of Transportation regarding the sidewalk and will notify Mr. Lee of when the meeting will take place so he may also attend.

Ms. Kriss Titus, Executive Director of the Tourist Development Council, appeared before the Commissioners and requested approval to place photographs of South Walton in the photo panel, which currently holds advertising. Ms. Titus explained that only one business has requested to readvertise, leaving many of the panels empty. The Board approved payment in the amount of \$15,581.50 for the production of 12 photos for the Visitor's Information Center photo panels. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Commissioners also approved printing costs in the amount of \$7,475.00 for 50,000 laminated bookmarks for the Tourist Development Council. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the TDC to advertise for two beach maintenance vacancies, according to policy, as requested by Ms. Titus. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the TDC to advertise the position of Marketing Director, contract laborer, according to policy, at an hourly rate of \$12.50 per hour as recommended by Ms. Titus. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Dewayne Kinard and Tim Hardy, scheduled on the agenda, were not present.

Mr. Jim Brewer, Finance Officer for Walton Regional Hospital, appeared before the Commissioners requesting support for Senate Bill 890 and House

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Bill 453, Hospital Capitol Improvement Trust Funds, in the amount of \$500,000.00 derived from tobacco funds for rural hospitals. The Commissioners agreed to discuss this issue further during Tuesday's regular scheduled meeting.

Mr. Bruce Ward, Walton County Extension Office, appeared before the Commissioners and introduced Ms. Sonya Wood Mahler, Marine Extension Agent for Escambia/Santa Rosa Counties. Mr. Ward requested to utilize Ms. Mahler to assist Walton County. Ms. Mahler will be paid 50% by State funds, 25% by Okaloosa County and 25 % by Walton County if approved.

Ms. Mahler explained various Sea Grant projects such as the annual coastal clean-up, underwater clean-up, youth programs, training projects for community awareness and stated that she works on about 50 projects per year.

The Commissioners approved to support the position of the Marine Coastal Systems Agent for the County Extension Office and fund 25% of the position. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to purchase a pump and motor from Consolidated Ace, DeFuniak Springs, in the amount of \$2,542.28 for Mosquito Control. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. Mr. Jerry Fountain, Purchasing Agent, explained that Consolidated Ace is the only vendor who meets the specifications for this equipment.

The Board approved the purchase of a monitor from Adapco in the amount of \$4,200.00 for Mosquito Control. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. Again, Mr. Fountain explained that Adapco is the only company who specializes in this type of speciality equipment.

The Board approved the purchase of glass beads from Saftey Coatings, Inc., Houston, Texas, in the amount of \$5,780.00 for the County Wide Paint Crew. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the purchase of base shield from Base Shield International, Houston, Texas, in the amount of \$76,994.00 for inventory. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approve for Cornerstone Business Incorporated to install the guardrails at Sandy Creek Bridge, District 1, in the amount of \$12,028.00. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the purchase and installation of six (6) roll-up doors from Humphries Overhead Doors, low bid, in the amount of \$1,002.45 each, for the three Butler Buildings. This

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item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to award the low quote to Crestview Fence Company to make the necessary repairs to the fence and gate at the Landfill in the amount of \$1,400.00. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to award the low quote to Gulf Ice Systems, Pensacola, Florida, in the amount of \$1,396.00 for the purchase of an ice machine, District 1. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to award bid #99-144 to Cook Whitehead Ford, Panama City, Florida, in the amount of \$54,579.00, low bid, for three (3) pick-up trucks, two for District 4 and one for District 3. The Board also approved to award bid #99-145 to Orville Beckford Ford, Milton, Florida, in the amount of \$40,641.00, low bid, for the purchase of a dump truck, District 4. These items will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Fountain presented a quote from Ring Power in the amount of \$166,682.00 for a Caterpillar Grader. Thompson Tractor bid \$141,190.00 with a trade-in allowance in the amount of \$80,000.00. Commissioner Ryan recommended awarding the bid to Thompson Tractor as previously approved.

Commissioner Ryan requested approval for Mr. Fountain to proceed forward with placing new fuel tanks in the old Tri-County yard near Public Works. The Board concurred.

Mr. Ryan also informed the Commissioners that the items in the blue building have been organized and need to be inventoried for the auction. Mr. Fountain explained that too many people have access to the building making it difficult to track the items being left and items being taken. Mr. Fountain suggested petitioning the building off with chain link fencing for each department. No action was taken.

The Commissioners recessed until 2:00 p.m.

The Commissioners reconvened with a presentation by Dr. Turner regarding a new site location for the Health Department. Dr. Turner stated that the funds request has been submitted to Legislature and will not act until a commitment from Walton County is made regarding the purchase of property.

Ms. Delois Carroll, Health Department Finance Manager, explained that they have located a site on State Highway 83 North behind Archello's Restaurant. The 17.5 acres is zoned Commercial and has water and sewer available at a cost of \$100,000.00. Ms. Carroll stated that a possible

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location for the new South Walton facility would be the 6.8 acres on the west side of U.S. Highway 331 South across from the water tower. That property is listed for \$250,000.00. The Commissioners deferred this for discussion at a later time.

Mr. Steve Toepper, Librarian, informed the Commissioners that Sprint will reimburse the County \$5,829.49 for the Frame Relay System.

Ms. Martha Ingle, Budget Officer, informed the Commissioners that a budget amendment has been advertised for tomorrow and will be required to be adopted by resolution.

The Board approved the following interdepartmental budget amendment: Planning Department - transfer \$2,000.00 from Administrative Supervisor's Machinery into Planning Machinery; transfer \$5,000.00 from Building Department Other Salaries into Planning Machinery; transfer \$500.00 from Building Department Machinery into Planning Machinery. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the reappointment of Lynn Haas, John Ingram, and Don Wisen to the Design Review Board. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, presented an overview of the density bonus system and stated that the Planning Commission is preparing a recommendation to be presented back to the Board.

Discussion was held regarding adoption of a 5% recreational impact fee policy. The Board deferred discussion of this item until tomorrow.

Mrs. Lynda Robinson, Human Resource Officer, requested approval to reclassify Kendall Withey from Laborer to Truck Driver, District 3, with a salary increase from \$5.80 to \$6.50 per hour. The Board agreed and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to combine Robert Bryan's prior years of service and raise his pay from \$6.90 to \$7.30 per hour. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to promote Steve Connell to part-time relief Paramedic and adjust his pay to \$8.80 per hour. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to advertise for RFP's for group life insurance and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Robinson informed the Commissioners that she received a jury

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summons for Federal jury duty in March and will need assistance with new employee enrollment if selected. Mr. Bodiford offered to provide an employee to assist.

Discussion was held regarding the pay scale for the Stabilization Crew. Mrs. Robinson recommended raising them two steps if the Board chooses not to adopt a separate pay scale. Commissioner Ryan recommended the Personnel Committee hold a workshop to make some adjustments in the current county wide pay scale. Commissioner Ryan will serve on the Committee in place of Commission Paul.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to hire Jay Carter, Jr., as Librarian IV with a beginning salary of \$15.15 per hour and approved Dan Owens as the alternate if Mr. Carter declines. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to hire Mr. Johnny E. Griggs, contract laborer, for the Mosquito Control Department, beginning April 1, 1999. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Attorney Miller to draft a drug screening policy requiring that all personnel be screened. The report will be submitted to the Human Resource Officer before applicant can report to work. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to hire Dave Currin, contract laborer, as Administrative Assistant for District 2 and 3 upon the transfer of Marilyn Wasson to Public Works. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to change the personnel policy stating that all new hires, including contract laborers, will complete a physical and drug screening prior to reporting to work. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved payment to Hartman and Associates in the amount of \$18,747.28 for legal services associated with the objection to WRP. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved a request by Mr. George Barnes to utilize CR 30A for a runner's road race on May 2, 1999. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Commissioners, Ronnie Bell and Shirl Williams to attend the County Legislative Day March 24, 1999, and a Land Use

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Workshop on March 25, 1999, in Tallahassee, Florida. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Walton County and the Glendale Volunteer Fire Department. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to provide a dumpster to Tony Dunkin, North First Street, District 1, to clean up debris. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a letter to the Commissioners for review, stating that Mr. Dewey Wilson, General Manager of Regional Utilities, will no longer participate in the WRP lawsuit.

The Board agreed to adopt a resolution (99-12) approving the membership reappointment proposal of the Fort Walton Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a request for a beach vehicle permit variance for C.F. Foster of Panama City Beach. The Board denied the request because Mr. Foster is not a property owner in Walton County as required by policy.

The Board approved to direct Attorney Miller to review the tax certificates with the Tax Collector. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Discussion was held regarding the possible purchase of property on U.S. Highway 331 South. The appraisal was presented for the 6.8 acres on the west side of 331 in the amount of \$245,000.00. Commissioner Walker voiced concerns with the amount of wetlands on the property. The Board agreed to discuss this issue further tomorrow.

Mr. Bell presented a proposed resolution for the Commissioner's review, regarding the transfer of TCI's franchise to Time Warner, Incorporated. This item will be discussed tomorrow.

The Board approved to adopt a resolution (99-09) regarding flood prevention at Lake Powell. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell reminded the Commissioners that each of them need to appoint a member to the Grievance Committee and Attorney William Green will advise them as to the grievance procedures.

The Board approved for the Commissioners and Ronnie Bell to attend the Hurricane Conference in Tampa, Florida, June 7-11, 1999, and rescheduled the Workshop and Board Meeting to June 1, 1999, at 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

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respectively. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a memorandum from the Department of Transportation regarding a temporary lane closure on I-10.

The Board approved the following payments: Walton County Tax Collector \$50.85-tag and title transfer for EMS, \$152.55-tag and titles for three Mosquito Control vehicles; GRIT Insurance \$33,890.00; and National Casualty Company \$126.00-Probation Department. This was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for McLean's Well Drilling Service to install a well at Cluster Springs Community Center in the amount of \$6,085.00. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to accept \$359.70 from Fields Timber Company and place the funds into the District 5 Road Material Fund. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a vehicle utilization record form for the Commissioner's review to be considered as the new travel voucher.

The Commissioners directed Mr. Miner to work with Hartman and Associates regarding the expansion of a wastewater plant for D/H Oil.

The Board approved for Commissioner Butler to obtain an environmental assessment on Environmental Waste Services' property, on J.D. Miller Road. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Ryan informed the Board that he spoke to Mike Standley, DeFuniak Springs City Manager, regarding the paving of Gene Hurley Road. Mr. Ryan stated that the City has agreed to pay for one half the cost of paving up to the last curve, which leaves 1/10 of a mile to complete paving the entire road. Mr. Ryan requested approval to pay for paving costs for the remaining 1/10 mile. The Board concurred.

Mr. Don Crim commended Commissioner Butler for his efforts on beach accesses for handicapped individuals.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

Joel Paul, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk