

WORKSHOP MEETING

March 13, 1995

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Workshop on Monday, March 13, 1995, at 8:30 a.m., in the Commission Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board members were present: Chairman Gordon Porter, Vice-Chairman Sam Pridgen, Commissioner Charles C. Harris, Commissioner Johnnie Moore, and Commissioner Rosier E. Cuchens, Jr. Administrative Supervisor Ronnie E. Bell was also present.

Chairman Porter called the meeting to order.

Judges Thomas T. Remington and Lewis R. Lindsey appeared before the Board to approve the starting of the small courtroom as soon as Billy Fountain's office is completely moved. Judge Remington said that the project would be paid from the Court Facilities Trust Fund, which Judge Remington said had accrued to about \$40,000. The Board approved the general concept of a small courtroom and gave approval to the preliminary steps of the project.

Public Safety Director Mike Barker appeared before the Board and asked for a Public Hearing addressing the modification of Ordinance 92-7. The scheduling and advertising of a Public Hearing on this topic was placed on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Barker also told the Board that FEMA money was trickling in concerning the floods last year. Mr. Barker said that about \$2 million has been received to date and that about \$2 million more was expected. He said that all this money should be received by the end of the calendar year.

Mr. Porter said that the Board talked with area federal representatives to see if these officials could expedite the process.

Mr. Barker alerted the Board of a meeting to review the response to the flooding of 1994 on March 30, 1995, at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Barker said several state and federal officials would be present at this meeting to critique and improve the county's response to future disasters.

Mr. Barker also told the Board of the next Hurricane Conference this June in Tampa. Mr. Barker said that he will be presenting several programs at this conference.

Assistant Administrative Supervisor Shirl Williams told the Board that

a Public Hearing should be advertised for the Frank Michitti development. The Board scheduled the Public Hearing for April 11, 1995, at 8:45 a.m. This item was placed on the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Williams told the Board of the selection of a County Planner from seven recent applicants. Ms. Williams said that Mr. Tom Blackshear was the only qualified applicant. Mr. Blackshear is the City Planner of Destin. Ms. Williams said that Mr. Blackshear requested a \$25,000 salary. That money would be budgeted in next year's budget and combined with a \$7,500 fund for professional services.

Ms. Williams told the Board of Freeport's request to release third-year funds from the SHIP program. These funds would go toward alleviating the large waiting list for Freeport residents requesting SHIP funds for projects. SHIP funds currently are applied to non-city residents. The Board said that it would research the idea.

Mr. Nevin Zimmerman of the Scenic 98 Association appeared before the Board and requested that the hold on commercial building applications be extended until the small-scale amendment can be reviewed and adopted.

Mr. Zimmerman presented the Board with two options. The first option is extending the hold for about 90 days or until the small-scale amendment can be adopted. The second option is adopting a Resolution that would establish a temporary review board. This Resolution would allow permits to be accepted and reviewed. If a project follows the guidelines of the proposed small-scale amendment, the project could proceed. The Board said that it would look at both options and make a decision at tomorrow's Regular meeting.

Mr. Ronnie Hudson told the Board about a request from DAYCO to provide it with a key to the gate at the landfill. This would allow it to deposit garbage there after hours. Mr. Hudson said the mandatory weigh-ins would be made.

Commissioner Cuchens said that several businesses in the South Walton area are concerned because they have no room to place a dumpster or no room for a garbage truck to turn around. These businesses want to rent and place their dumpsters at the Blue Mountain Landfill site. These businesses would have a key to the gate there and would be responsible for maintaining the area. The Board said that they would check with County Attorney George R. Miller about the idea.

Ms. Sue Ellen Colin appeared before the Board to discuss the Workfare

program. She presented the Board with a flow chart for how the program would work. Food Stamp recipients would work for their Food Stamps by coordinating with the Private Industry Council and the local Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services.

The Board placed approval of two watershed projects on the Consent Agenda. The two projects are the Smith project #DSRW4-7 and the Nolin project #DSRW4-12.

Administrative Supervisor Ronnie E. Bell presented the Board with a letter requesting its support of a Prisoner Reimbursement To The County Act. This act would allow the County to charge prisoners up to \$50 a day for their incarceration.

Commissioner Harris said he would like to look at having an Ordinance to the same effect.

Mr. Bell presented the Board with a letter from the Florida Association of Counties requesting the Board's opposition to Senate Bill #644. That bill would restrict local governments' ability to transfer tort liability in court cases. A Resolution opposing Senate Bill #644 was placed on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Ben Hammit appeared before the Board and presented it with a draft of a Sea Turtle Ordinance. Mr. Hammit said adoption of a Sea Turtle Ordinance is required by the county's Comprehensive Plan. He said the draft is a combination of the Vero Beach and St. Lucie County ordinances. The Board said that some of the restrictions in the proposed ordinance were too stringent and that they would consult with County Attorney George R. Miller.

The Board then took a 5-minute break.

Chief Deputy Clerk Martha Ingle told the Board of a lower interest rate bid on the Dump Truck for District 4. The lower bid was from Barnett Bank for the lease-loan rate of 5.96%. The acceptance of this interest rate was placed on the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Ingle presented the Board with Budget Transfers 1,2,3, and 4. The approval of these Budget Transfers was placed on the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Mike Webber and Ms. Deborah Overstreet appeared before the Board to discuss the planned maze in the South Walton area. Ms. Overstreet, attorney for the developers, said that the Board seemed to be eliminating amusement from the commercial developments. Ms. Overstreet said that her clients started the process in December and can get no direction from the Board.

Chairman Porter said that the Board is trying to work with the

developers to guide them. Mr. Porter said the South Walton area is uncertain as to zoning and land-use with the South Walton Trust and the Scenic Corridor pending. Mr. Porter said that the Board was acting cautiously until these items were settled.

Ms. Overstreet said that a mini-golf course was already located in the area and violates the zoning for that area.

Commissioner Harris said that the Webbers came before the Board only for guidance and that the developer does not even own the property.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: _____

Gordon Porter, Chairman

Attest: _____

Catherine King, Clerk