

WORKSHOP

MARCH 22, 1999

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

The following Board members were present: Chairman Joel Paul, Jr., Commissioner Gene Ryan, Commissioner Randall Infinger, Commissioner Van Ness Butler, and Commissioner Herman Walker. Ronnie 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.

Commissioner Gene Ryan made a request to the media to be sensitive when reporting Walton County employees' positions and payscale, to ensure the intent of the article will not create misleading information concerning personnel to the public.

Ms. Suedelle Wilkerson, Finance Supervisor, presented the Expenditure Approval List (EAL) consisting of the following bills:

	General Fund	
\$104,409.94		
	County Transportation Trust	66,362.05
	Mosquito Control State	
	575.10	
	Library	
4,288.84		
	Solid Waste Enterprise	
104,398.87		
	Mossy Head VFD	
337.04		
	Glendale VFD	
	20.24	
	Darlington VFD	
	23.94	
	Liberty VFD	46.64
	Red Bay VFD	
48.99		
	TDC/AmSouth	
43,030.83		
	SHIP	
3,809.75		
	Section 8 Housing	
28.95		
	Driftwood Debt Services	
125.24		

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

Commissioner Randall Infinger, directed Ms. Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, to review the current contract between Walton

County and West Florida Regional Planning Council and give an updated report on the expenditures incurred by the County for their services.

District 1 Foreman, Mr. Bud Lindsey, appeared before the Board and presented the District 1 schedule of work hours. Mr. Lindsey stated that for the past two years the five day, ten hour work day, utilizing a split crew had worked extremely well. He also explained how they split their crew to provide a work crew for each day of the work week. He requested the Board consider standardizing the County's work hours in order to coordinate the County Shop and various departments' hours with the Districts' hours. This item was tabled until further review.

Attorney Cris Cadenhead, representing the Magnolia Bluff Community Development District, appeared before the Board requesting a clarification on the number of lots previously approved by the Board. Attorney Cadenhead stated that the bond documents, numerous documented records, and a letter from the Planning Commission indicate that the revised plans allowing 450 lots had been previously approved. Commissioner Infinger voiced his concern about sewer and septic problems without an adequate sewer system. The Board directed Attorney Cadenhead to ask the developer to present future plans for a septic and sewer system. This item was tabled until tomorrow's Regular Board Meeting.

Ms. Melinda Watson, Walton County Humane Society, appeared before the Board and presented a contract approving the County to provide maintenance and fuel for the Humane Society's vehicles through October, 1999. She also asked for direction from the Board whether maintenance and fuel provision should be added to the Humane Society's budget for the next budget year. The Board agreed to table this item for two weeks until Attorney Miller reviews the proposed contract.

Ms. Delois Carroll, Walton County Health Department, appeared before the Board to report on future building sites for the health department facility. Two sites located on 20th Street near the Walton Vocational-Technical School were offered by Superior Realty: a 4 to 5 acre site for \$60,000.00, and a 5 to 8 acre site for \$125,000.00. The proposed 17.5 acres located on North 9th Street could not be divided to purchase less than the 17.5 acres. Ms. Carroll and Dr. Susan Turner recommended purchasing the 17.5 acres due to the convenient location to other County offices. The location will be accommodating to clients, the new building will be in the same area, water and sewer availability, and the property size is adequate

for future expansion were other reasons stated. Lengthy discussion followed with concerns about how much acreage within the 17.5 acres is suitable to build on, suitability for future expansion, and how much of the acreage would be considered as wetlands. The Board recommended that Mr. Miner, County Engineer, contact Preble-Rish Engineering to conduct a survey as to the elevation of said property and bring a survey report back to the Board.

The Commissioners recessed briefly.

Mr. Jack Rhodes, representing The Three Amigos, Inc., appeared before the Board and requested a waiver to the Walton County Comprehensive Plan regarding Bayou Ann's Restaurant. After construction, a revision in the setback line to 100 feet from a coastal lake was implemented making the entire development site defined as a legal nonconforming site with no future expansion. The developers would like to correct the areas that are in noncompliance by removing the 2600 square foot porch area of the restaurant, some outside existing shop structures, and a portion of the parking area. After modification, a development order application will be filed to bring all specifications into full compliance with the current land development code. The Commissioners requested Latilda Hughes Verhine be called to answer questions concerning this issue and deferred further discussion until she arrived.

Colonel Bill Chapman, Walton County Sheriff's Department, appeared before the Board informing the Commissioners that the Sheriff's Department is eligible for a grant to obtain five in-car video cameras. Colonel Chapman stated that this grant required no matching funds nor had any connection with the DUI Traffic Enforcement Grant. He presented the grant application for the Board's approval and signature. The item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Debbie Von Behren, Professional and Organizational Development Consultant, addressed the Commissioners concerning Walton County's five year strategic and organizational plan. Ms. Von Behren stated that a facilitator would provide precise plans that will clearly indicate the best decisions for future county progress. The Commissioners agreed to postpone a decision until further discussion by the Board can be held.

Ms. Latilda Hughes Verhine, Planning and Zoning Department Director, appeared before the Board to answer questions relating to Bayou Ann's Restaurant and asked for direction regarding the requested variance. Attorney Miller advised that a waiver is not needed since the existing

restaurant structure is in compliance and not being completely removed.

Mr. Jerry Fountain, Purchasing Agent, presented the results of Bid #99-143, for the Landfill Ground Watering System, as recommended by Hartman & Associates: Handex, Jacksonville, Florida,--\$360,883.00. The Board tabled this item for further review.

Mr. Fountain continued presenting the following bids:

1) Bid #99-149, River Buyout Programs/Property Closings, as follows: Attorney Gerald Holley, Chipley, FL, title search and closing fee--\$550.00, with an additional \$150.00 if over \$69,500.00. The Board approved to award Bid #99-149 to Attorney Gerald Holley and placed this on the consent agenda based on Ms. Shirl Williams' recommendation.

Bids were also received from Stewart Title of Northwest Florida, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, and R. Douglas Permenter, Esq., Pensacola, Florida.

2) Bid #99-151, River Buyout Programs Property Appraisals, one quote received:

Lindsey S. Gotshall, Panama City, FL----\$2,700.00.

The Board awarded the bid to Lindsey S. Gotshall, Panama City, Florida, and placed this item on the consent agenda.

3) Bid #99-152, three bids were received to purchase a one ton diesel pickup truck for District 3, as follows:

Gary Smith Ford, Ft. Walton Beach, FL---\$26,675.00
Orville Beckford, Milton, Florida-----\$27,375.00
Coffman International, Dothan, AL-----\$30,830.00

The Board approved to award the bid to Gary Smith Ford, low quote, in the amount of \$26,675.00, and placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Fountain submitted quotes for wiring the Courthouse Annex Building for 15 computer stations, as follows;

Coastal Computer Connections,
Panama City, FL-----\$1,414.76

Robert Nelson Internet Solutions,
DeFuniak Spgs., FL--\$1,575.00

The Board awarded the bid to Coastal Computer Connections, in the amount of \$1,414.76, low quote, and placed on the consent agenda.

4) Bid #99-153, Library Consultant for relay system, two bids were received:

Robert Nelson Internet Solutions,
DeFuniak Springs, FL---\$8,750.00

NUOVO Technology, Inc.
Navarre, Florida-----\$15,960.00

The Board awarded the bid to Robert Nelson Internet Solutions, low quote, in the amount of \$8,750.00, and placed this item on the consent agenda.

5) Bid #99-154, one bid was received from Robert Nelson Internet Solutions, DeFuniak Springs, Florida, for the purchase of KU/C Band Satellite System in the amount of \$8,250.00. The Board approved to award this bid to Robert Nelson Internet Solutions and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Fountain presented quotes for Cedar Log Lake storm damage repair as follows:

Gum Creek Farms, DeFuniak Spgs., FL	\$15,886.00
Leonard Edwards, DeFuniak Spgs., FL	\$24,958.00
Couch Construction, Shalimar, FL	\$20,562.00

The Board awarded the bid to Gum Creek Farms, low quote, and placed on the consent agenda. (The Board instructed repair work to begin immediately).

Mr. Fountain presented Bid #99-142, for protective fire clothing for Volunteer Fire Departments as follows:

Municipal Equipment Co., Orlando, Fl	\$19,050.00
Nafeco, Decatur, Alabama,-----	\$19,575.00

The Board approved Municipal Equipment Company, low quote, in the amount of \$19,050.00, and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Fountain presented a budgetary quote for a County fuel system, from Wiregrass Petroleum, Dothan, Alabama, as follows: a 10,000 gallon tank--\$19,239.95; a 5,000 gallon tank--\$14,404.95; a 15,000 gallon double compartment tank---\$20,466.00. Mr. Fountain explained that the quote was for informational purposes only.

The Board approved payment to Marianna Surplus and Salvage in the amount of \$670.00 for the payment of a metal roller for the County Shop. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Fountain presented the proposed contract for Attorney Miller's review to purchase a fire truck for Tri-Village Fire Department.

The Board approved Commissioner Ryan's signature on an auction release form to sell one District 4 Road Grader at First Coast Auction, Tallahassee, Florida. The item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Lynda Robinson, Human Resource Officer, presented the job descriptions and salaries for the Reclamation/Stabilization Crew. The item was tabled for further discussion at the regular meeting.

Ms. Robinson presented the Purchasing Department's job descriptions,

re-classifications, and payscale. The Purchasing Department recommendations were tabled until tomorrow's regular meeting.

Ms. Robinson read a letter from employee, Larry Meredith, requesting his hire date be retroactive to July 1, 1998, the date he was hired as a Contract Laborer, and that all benefits be retroactive to that date in order to waive the probationary period. The Board denied this request in order for Mr. Meredith's employment status to stay in compliance with current policies.

Ms. Robinson requested approval to advertise the position of Laborer, District 1, according to policy. The Board approved and this item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The first phase of the Purchasing Department was presented by Mr. Langdon Haynes, Purchasing Agent, requesting approval on the re-organization and centralizing of the department. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Haynes also requested that each district and department submit a name to the Purchasing Department by March 25, 1999, as to whom their contact person will be for future purchasing questions.

Ms. Shirl Williams requested a Public Hearing be set regarding the recommendations of the Planning Commission on the Scenic Corridor Standards for May 11, 1999, at 5:15 p.m. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Ms. Williams presented names of individuals to be considered for the Contractors Competency Board: Electrical--Don Early; Mechanical--Steve Earle Thompson; General--Barbara Gilmer; Residential--Greg France; Plumbing--Anthony Dubuisson; Building--Mark Breaux; and lay person, Ron Wall, contingent upon acceptance by each individual. This item will be placed on the consent agenda for approval.

Ms. Williams requested approval to advertise the organizational 30-A Transportation Study Task-Force Meeting on April 6, 1999, 2:00 p.m., at the Tourist Development Council Building. This item will be place on the consent agenda for approval.

Ms. Williams informed the Board that the new FEMA Flood Maps were available through the Building Department offices located in the Courthouse Annex and at the South Walton Annex.

Attorney George Ralph Miller advised the Board that Ms. Reynolds, resident of Camp Adams Road, would like assurance that she may utilize the easement located on her property to install a septic tank and establish the

setback requirement for the construction of buildings. Ms. Reynolds also requested for this to be incorporated into the settlement agreement. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Attorney Mark Davis requested permission to withdraw from the Co-Conflict Representation Contract due to a conflict of interest relating to a merger of law firms. The Board directed Mr. Davis and Attorney George R. Miller to discuss this issue with the Judges and work out a roster of attorneys to be considered as a replacement for Attorney Davis. Attorney Davis' request for withdrawal will be placed on the consent agenda for approval.

Ms. Kriss Titus, TDC Director, reminded the Board of a Legislative Luncheon, May 31, 1999, in Tallahassee, Florida.

Ms. Titus introduced Ms. Dawn O'Connor, TDC advertising Agent, who provided information regarding Claritas, a marketing research firm that will work with Walton County bed tax collectors to provide accurate tourism information on the number of visitors to the South Walton beaches during the year.

Ms. Suedelle Wilkerson, Finance Director, presented TDC bills that were not included on the EAL list: First American Bank, credit card payment in the amount of \$4,029.81; Reliastar Insurance Company, for February and March, 1999, premiums in the amount of \$2,677.26; Suntrust Bank in the amount of \$127.00 for an airline ticket for TDC employee, Julie Root; National Hurricane Conference, \$250.00, for Tracey Howell to attend; and Brede Expo. Services, \$349.00, trade show expense. The Board approved these items and placed them on the consent agenda.

Ms. Suedelle Wilkerson, Finance Director, requested approval to pay Omni Rosen Hotel in the amount of \$421.17, hotel costs for Ms. Lynda Robinson, Human Resource Officer, to attend a conference. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. John Duncan, Department of Transportation, addressed the Board requesting several variances to the Scenic Corridor Standards for the widening of U.S. Highway 98. The Board agreed to set a Public Hearing on April 26, 1999, at 5:30 p.m., in DeFuniak Springs, regarding the variances. This item will be placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Butler, presented a proposed conceptual New Town Center plan to be built on a 114 acre site located on U.S. Highway 331 South. Mr. Butler explained that the newly proposed plan eliminates private residential

and commercial sites, allows only governmental facilities, and is satisfactory with the Florida Wildlife and Environmental guidelines. The Board granted conceptual approval for the proposed New Town Center plans and declined to pursue the purchase of the 110 acre tract located on U.S. Highway 98. The Board approved the conceptual plan and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Butler proposed that the Board investigate the possible property exchange for helicopter pad acreage to be used by the Sheriff's Department, and to ask Mr. Jim McFarland for his assistance in the property exchange.

Commissioner Infinger asked for an update regarding rent payments by Healthmark to the County. Attorney Miller advised the Board that according to the January 12, 1998, minutes, no rent would be collected during the two year construction period.

Commissioner Butler proposed a \$450.00 per month local travel allowance for each commissioner. Discussion was held suggesting that each Commissioner keep an accurate log for at least three months detailing mileage travelled. This item was tabled for further discussion.

Mr. Nelson Miner, County Engineer, requested authorization to purchase the following surplus equipment from Marianna Surplus & Equipment, Marianna, Florida: an air compressor-\$300.00; a 22 foot trailer with two concrete saws-\$1,500.00; nine new 11X24 tires-\$450.00; a small concrete saw-\$30.00. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Miner presented the following invoices for payment: two invoices from Hartman & Associates in the amounts of \$6,221.59 and \$1,293.50, regarding the Landfill contamination remediation; and an invoice to Precision Loads, Seattle, Washington, in the amount of \$782.10, for parts to repair the lime truck. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Miner presented quotes to replace the copy machine located at the Public Works office: Advanced Copy-\$3,495.00; Copy Products-\$3,931.00. The Board instructed Mr. Miner to have the Purchasing Department handle the purchase of these items.

Mr. Miner informed the Board that he had received the surplus materials packet that required signatures for authorized purchasers for Walton County. He informed the Board that the State had requested someone be listed other than an elected official. Mr. Miner recommended Ronnie Bell. The Board approved for Mr. Bell to sign as an authorized purchaser.

Mr. Miner gave an update concerning the Landfill ground water litigation and implementation and stated that he needs approximately two additional weeks to look at a second option.

Mr. Miner requested the Board advertise for a full time position of Right-of-Way Inspector and stated that the salary could be paid from utility permit fees. The Board approved and this item will be placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Miner informed the Board that in the widening of Highway 98, the Utility Director of the Department of Transportation (DOT) has notified the County that DOT will require utilities to be placed in compliance with regulations where the County right-of-ways intersect with Highway 98.

Discussion was held regarding the transfer of Allen Brown to the position of Right of Way Specialist. It was determined to take place as soon as possible in order to prevent down time for the Raco machine, and the public relations involved with landowners in obtaining right-of-way.

Mr. Miner requested direction concerning the Reclamation & Stabilization Crew and the Right-of-Way Crew. Both crews are in need of additional equipment and trucks for their job duties. Commissioner Ryan stated that District 4 will transfer two pick-up trucks to the right-of-way crew and when the crew is working within District 4, dump trucks would be provided by the district. Each Commissioner agreed to provide dump trucks when work was to be done in their district. Mr. Miner requested a priority list of roads and bridges be given to Public Works in order to coordinate crews with priority work to be performed.

Mr. Miner reported that the Paint Stripping Crew is performing at a 5% increase in productivity with the new paint tank purchased for the paint truck. The use of a rented Power Broom for paint purposes has been beneficial and purchasing the power broom may be considered at a future date.

Discussion was held to contract out or to have the County Bridge Crew replace seven bridges that have been tentatively approved by FEMA. The Board directed Mr. Miner to prepare a time table as to the length of time it would take the County Bridge Crew to replace the bridges that have been designated as priority. The Board also directed Mr. Miner to bring an estimated cost of all seven bridges if the work is performed by the county crew. The item was tabled until Mr. Miner can provide the requested information.

Mr. Ronnie Bell suggested that the Legion Park and Eastern Lake Park be maintained by the TDC Maintenance Department and asked Commissioner Butler to

discuss the matter with TDC.

Mr. Miner reported that the County has seventeen projects with the Soil Conservation and all are underway and making progress. The County has 200 FEMA projects related to Hurricane Georges underway.

Mr. Miner suggested hiring Mr. Harry Cosson, as Contract Laborer, as an Asphalt Inspector. Mr. Miner explained the need for an inspector and stated that Mr. Cosson has the experience to teach County employees the inspection techniques and identify the quality of asphalt. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Miner advised the Board that a telephonic conference will take place to address the problems with FEMA and hurricane paperwork by the Florida Department of Transportation on March 24, 1999 at 2:00 p.m., at the Walton County Emergency Operation Center.

Commissioner Infinger requested the approval to purchase a third box culvert for District 3. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Ryan requested approval for internal advertising for three additional employees for the Right-of-Way Crew. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of paving Leisure Lake Road, District 4. The item was tabled pending further discussion.

Commissioner Butler requested to purchase twenty loads of rock to be placed at Eastern Lake Bridge and be funded from County Wide funds. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Ronnie Bell requested to purchase an 800mhz radio from Southern Linc for the Maintenance Department. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a Memorandum of Understanding between Walton County EMS and the Red Bay Volunteer Fire Department. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

An addendum to the In-Kind Contribution Cooperative Agreement was presented between the Natural Resources Conservation Services and Walton County to amend Agreement Number 68-4209-9-212 & 68-4209-9-214. The Board agreed to accept the amendments. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to purchase one radio from Quadratics in the amount of \$1,094.00 for the Rosemary Beach EMS Department, as requested by Matt

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

The Board approved to purchase a video camera for the Board and a video camera for each district office. The Board approved to surplus the Board's old video camera. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved a request from Mr. Greg Crishon to place a dumpster near Mount Nebo Baptist Church to clean up houses that have been donated. The City of DeFuniak also granted approval. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell read a letter from Nick Nickolson, Chairperson of Okaloosa County Board of Commissioners, regarding the adoption of a resolution by the Walton County Commissioners supporting Regional Utility Authority's request for state funding for development of a computer model and drilling of three monitoring wells. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Board granted a request from Ms. Martha Ingle, Budget Officer, to approve an inter-departmental budget amendment transferring \$9,518.00 from contingencies into Purchasing Salaries and Machinery. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Mr. Larry Nelson, Building Inspector, to be transferred to District 4 as a truck driver. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Attorney George R. Miller informed the Board that Mark Davis will remain until May 1, 1999, as Co-Conflict Representative.

The Commissioners recessed briefly.

Mr. Ronnie Bell presented the names of nine survey firms who responded to the request for qualifications: Genesis Group, Tallahassee, Florida; Dyer, Riddle, Mills & Precourt, Inc., Orlando, Florida; CRA Engineering, Inc., Tallahassee, Florida; Benchmark Surveying & Engineering, Inc., Pace, Florida; Buchanan & Harper, Inc., Panama City, Florida; Steven G. Bruce, DeFuniak Springs, Florida; Bruner-Mongoven Land Surveying, Panama City, Florida; Frederick B. Tooke, Jr., DeFuniak Springs, Florida; Baskerville-Donovan, Inc., Pensacola, Florida. A date will be set to conduct interviews.

Commissioner Gene Ryan stated for the record that Joyce Wilkerson, Public Works, had not been demoted nor have her duties been decreased, but rather increased. Therefore, her title will remain Administrative Assistant.

Commissioner Butler requested a separate contract be drafted with Mr. Jim McFarland, Conservation Properties, to assist in the submission of an

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application to the Florida Community Trust for funding on a county park located on the Choctawhatchee Bay. Commissioner Butler also requested Mr. McFarland assist the Sheriff's Department in a land exchange with the State. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Matt Douglass, EMS Director, presented an application to apply for a 75/25 matching grant in the amount of \$22,130.00, to purchase protective equipment for EMS employees and requested the Board's signature on the application. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger stated he had three phone calls voicing complaints against the HUD Office and would like to investigate the nature of complaints to determine if anything needs to be done.

Mr. Bodiford, Clerk of Courts, advised the Board that Nance Road had numerous core sample bores taken from it ranging from sizes of 2 inches to 4 inches and no one knew who did the boring. He suggested that since this was destructive to the road, the Board needed to be advised.

Mr. Bodiford stated that Ms. Martha Ingle was working with him to draw up a budget training module for Board employees. He requested that each Commissioner make any recommendation of changes desired in the budget and get with him as soon as possible.

Mr. Bodiford explained that a new sound system would be demonstrated and tried at the next meeting scheduled at the Tourist Development Council Building.

Mr. Steve Toepper, Librarian, requested the Board's approval and signature to adopt a Resolution in support of the Rosemary Beach Library construction application. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

Joel Paul, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk