

WORKSHOP

MARCH 23, 1998

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, March 23, 1998, at 8:30 a.m., in the Commission Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

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

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

Mrs. Angie Biddle, Grants Coordinator, appeared before the Commissioners to explain the Fair Housing/EEO Training for Walton County which prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of housing.

Mrs. Lynda Robinson, Human Resource Officer, presented information to the Commissioners and stated that Walton County is in compliance with Federal and State Regulations regarding employment.

Mrs. Biddle presented a memorandum from Mr. Tom Pierce, Chief of the Bureau of Community Development, advising that the Department of Community Affairs has extended the Small Cities CDBG application due date until June 30, 1998, to allow time for eligible local governments to consider flooding and tornado damage assessments in the application process.

The Board authorized Chairman Young to draft an resolution requesting that the Governor and Legislature assist in funding the 12.5% local share of the total disaster amount and present to the Board for approval at Tuesday's meeting.

Mr. Jimmy Davidson, General Contractor, appeared before the Board and explained a situation regarding a house he built in 1994. The house passed inspection at time of completion but the customer refuses to pay the final amount owed.

Mr. Davidson explained that Mr. Miller is the attorney for the plaintiff in a pending court case. The Commissioners agreed to look into the situation.

Mr. Kermit George, Southern Engineering Group, appeared before the Board to present the plans for Magnolia Bluff Subdivision, Freeport, and present a request for a Community Development Unit. Mr. George introduced

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Mr. Mark Conner and Mr. Bill Rezetta who are also working with the project.

Mr. Conner stated that the project is currently approved for 450 lots, however, a request to increase the lots to 600 will be made at a later date.

Mrs. Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, advised that the project is a development of regional impact and will require regional impact review and a Large-Scale Amendment.

Mr. Bill Rezetta stated that the Community Development District is an independent special taxing district which can only finance and maintain public infrastructure such as roads, water & sewer. The development also provides restricted covenants to the subdivision. There would be no financial obligation to Walton County. The Commissioners voiced their concerns with maintaining the roads. Mr. Rezetta explained that the roads will be constructed to meet County specifications, but will be privately maintained.

Mr. Bobby Ammons, Assistant Public Works Director, appeared before the Board to explain that the insurance adjuster appraised the compressor, which was damaged in the accident, at \$28,000, but F & W only wants to pay \$20,000. MD Moody, owner of the compressor, suggested to have Walton County's insurance pay the additional \$8,000. The Commissioners felt that it is not Walton County's responsibility since Walton County did not cause the accident. The Commissioners agreed to refer the situation to Attorney Miller.

Mrs. Mary Lou Reed, Executive Director of the Okaloosa-Walton Jobs and Education Partnership Board, appeared before the Board to request renewal of the existing agreement to the Joint Plan for the JEP Board. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Dennis Johnson, Nelson Development Company, L.L.P., appeared before the Board and presented a copy of the original agreement for the Andalusia Street Pavilion. Mr. Johnson stated that Nelson Development Company has offered to make a contribution to Butler Elementary School for a pavilion and requested that the pavilion on Andalusia Street remain in place. Nelson Development will also provide No Parking signs and Tow Zone signs to be placed on Andalusia Street.

Mr. Michael Milton, Milton Insurance Company, presented a request to the Commissioners, offering a long-term/short-term disability plan to county employees. Mr. Milton stated that 25% or 50 employees, the greater amount,

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must participate.

The Board authorized Mr. Milton to present a long-term/short-term disability insurance plan to county employees for voluntary participation, with an effective date of June 1, 1998, for participating employees. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. James Rodgers, P.E., Director of Operations with the Department of Transportation (DOT), presented an organizational chart and offered assistance in obtaining a working relationship between DOT and Walton County.

Mr. Rodgers introduced the following staff from DOT: Mr. Stan Swiatek, Resident Engineer; Mr. Alan Bush, Construction; Mr. Larry Kelley, Maintenance Engineer; Mr. Joe Poole, Traffic Operations Engineer. Each one spoke briefly to the Commissioners and presented charts, maps, and information relating to their field of work.

Discussion was held regarding the development of procedures in emergency traffic situations and DOT's five year work plan.

The Board agreed to draft a resolution to submit to Congress in support of Highway Transportation Funding. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Mike O'Brien, Environmental Waste Systems, appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the renewal of the Franchise Agreement. Discussion was held regarding RFP's. The Commissioners agreed to discuss this issue further during Tuesday's meeting.

Mr. Tom Blackshear, County Planner, presented an agreement with the Department of Community Affairs regarding the Evaluation and Appraisal Report. The Board approved the Evaluation and Appraisal Report Agreement and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Paul informed the Board of a situation involving Mr. Don Graff, District 1 resident on Don Graff Road. The issue involves a civil court case with Dr. Anna Krupkin, whom Attorney Miller serves as legal counsel. Mr. Paul requested authorization to hire Attorney William Green to review the situation and advise the Board as to what (if any) action should be taken. The Board agreed to hire Mr. Green for legal advice and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Graff explained to the Commissioners that according to his deed and a survey, he owns a portion of the property which Dr. Krupkin has fenced in. Because of the situation, Mr. Graff has placed a gate blocking the area for

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the school bus to turn around requiring the County to create another bus turn-around area. Mr. Jerry L. Stark, resident on Don Graff Road, has signed a right-of-entry form granting permission for the County to create another area for a bus turn-around. The Board approved the right-of-entry agreement and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to hire Attorney Green as legal counsel for Walton County in the event that a conflict should arise and County Attorney, George R. Miller, cannot serve as counsel. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Jerry Fountain, Shop Manager/Purchasing Agent, presented information to the Board regarding Bid 98-106, Whitegoods for the Landfill. The following two bids were received: Hondo Enterprises, DeFuniak Springs, Florida, in the amount of \$17.50 per ton, and Cumbaa Enterprises, Inc., Blounstown, Florida, in the amount of \$22.95 per ton.

The Board approved to award bid 98-106 to Cumbaa Enterprises in the amount of \$22.95 per ton based upon recommendation of Mr. Fountain. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to waive the bid procedures and allow Gum Creek Farms, DeFuniak Springs, Florida, to make repairs at the intersections of Aspen Lane, Beach Lane, and E. Catalpa Lane, on South Norwood Road, District 1, in the amount of \$4,572. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to advertise for bids for one single axle dump truck and one bush hog for District 5. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to advertise for bids for a sorter belt for the Landfill. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Ingrid Burmeister, Section 8 Housing Director, appeared before the Board to request financial assistance. Mrs. Burmeister explained that the time requirement for placing occupants into dwellings, is creating delays in receiving the administration fees which are needed to operate. Mrs. Burmeister requested the Board waive the office rent of \$600 per month, waive the lease payment on the car in the amount of \$300 per month, and waive payment of the health, life, and worker's compensation insurance premiums.

The Board approved to waive the office rent for the Section 8 Housing Office in the amount of \$600 per month and the lease payment on the car in the amount of \$300 per month through the end of the current budget year. The

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County will also pay the health, life, and worker's compensation insurance for the HUD employees through the end of the budget. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Robinson presented the job description and pay scale for the position of Countywide Paint Stripper, and requested permission to advertise the available position. This will be a temporary position. The pay scale begins at \$6.50 per hour. The Board approved the job description and pay-scale and agreed to advertise the vacancy. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to transfer Mr. Joe Ealum from County Wide to the position of Equipment Operator, District 3, based upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to advertise for applicants to fill Equipment Operator positions, one for the bridge crew and one for County Wide. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Robinson informed the Board that Mr. William B. Bush, previously approved as a part-time Paramedic, withdrew his application and requested not to be employed by Walton County. Mrs. Robinson stated that since his request, she has received information which disqualifies him for employment.

The Board approved to hire Mr. Charles "Rick" Bailey for the position of Field Assistant, District 5, at a beginning wage of \$12.00 per hour, effective April 6, 1998, based upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee and approval by Commissioner Butler. The committee interviewed 13 of the 50 applicants who applied for the position. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Porter requested the Board to submit a letter to Senator Charles Clary in support of Senate Bill 2216, allowing for continuation of the New Town Center site plans. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board recessed for lunch.

The Commissioners reconvened as the Grievance Committee in a quasi-judicial hearing to consider necessary action to be taken regarding Mr. Michael Moore, District 2 employee, and Mr. Roland Wilkerson, District 2 Foreman.

Attorney Bruner presented a petition of support on behalf of retaining Mr. Wilkerson as Foreman. Attorney Polsen was opposed.

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The Committee began deliberations in the absence of all parties.

Chairman Young stated that the records reflect 226.25 hours of annual leave and 67.86 hours of sick leave for Mr. Wilkerson. Mr. Young stated that after considering the testimony as presented, he feels that it would be in the best interest of all concerned to offer Mr. Wilkerson the opportunity to resign. If he is unwilling to resign then he will be terminated. Discussion was held regarding eligible benefits upon resignation or termination.

The Committee did not accept the petition as part of the proceedings. The Attorney's and all parties involved returned for the final decision.

After Attorney Green explained the Committee's decision Mr. Young motioned that, because of offensive and derogatory comments in direct violation of the personnel policy, that Mr. Wilkerson be given the opportunity to resign and receive payment for his remaining annual leave and sick leave, otherwise he will be terminated and paid according to the personnel policy. Second by Mr. Butler. Ayes 5, Nayes 0. Porter Aye, Infinger Aye, Paul Aye, Butler Aye, Young Aye.

The Committee will make this recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners for a final vote during their regular session.

The Commissioners reconvened as a Board to complete the order of business.

The Board approved for Tressia Tousignant to attend a training seminar in Tallahassee on April 27, 1998, at a cost of \$25.00. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Ingle, Budget Officer, presented the items for budget amendment #4, scheduled on tomorrow's agenda.

Mrs. Suedelle Wilkerson, Accounting Supervisor, presented the Expenditure Approval List (EAL) for payment approval.

The Board approved payment of the following bills as presented on the EAL:

General Fund	\$345,957.00
County Transportation Trust	122,053.35
Fine & Forfeiture	
372,903.66	
Debt Service Fund	180.98
Tourist Development	1,780.72
North Walton Mosquito	1,467.11
Walton-DeFuniak Library	2,375.86
Recreation Plat Fee	5,937.72
Solid Waste	79,060.86
Mossy Head Fire	213.80
Glendale Fire	24.50
Darlington Fire	305.76
Liberty Fire	1,247.24

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Red Bay Fire		<u>144.49</u>
Grand Total		\$933,653.05

This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Wilkerson updated the Commissioners on the bank accounts and stated that all of the accounts are now being swept into the concentration account with the exception of the CTT and the Money Market Accounts at Barnett Bank, and two accounts for TDC at AmSouth Bank. The CTT and Money Market Accounts will eventually be placed in sweep accounts. The TDC account is being left at AmSouth Bank as requested by Mr. Malcolm Patterson, Executive Director of the South Walton Tourist Development Council. Mrs. Wilkerson stated that all accounts are scheduled to be reconciled with the General Ledger as of April and all accounts are now drawing at least 5% interest.

The Board approved to advertise to hold a public hearing on April 14, 1998, at 5:15 p.m., to consider adopting the Citation Ordinance. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Mr. Ken Little, Code Enforcement Officer, to attend a meeting in Panama City on Wednesday, March 25, 1998. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board authorized to pay Attorney Allen Ramey \$968.75 for services rendered regarding Deer Lake Dunes. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to refund \$164.19 to Amillia Meyers for an unused building permit. Ms. Meyers was unable to begin construction because of illness in her family and had to move. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Shirl Williams informed the Board that the Planning Department has placed some property, owned by Mr. Foster Burgess and a parcel owned by Ms. June Adair, as part of the State owned land on the Future Land Use Map. Mrs. Williams requested the Board adopt a resolution correcting the scrivener's error removing both parcels from that section. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Williams presented information relating to density bonuses for development and a letter by Mr. David Taylor, Director of Planning, HDR Engineering, Inc., regarding the method used. Mrs. Williams advised the Commissioners that they need to set a policy for density bonuses to be

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followed.

Mrs. Gina Bryan, Southern Communications Services, Inc., Pensacola, Florida, appeared before the Board to demonstrate use of the radios that the Commissioners purchased.

Mr. Nelson Minor, County Engineer, stated that he spoke with Mr. Tommy Cook, Department of Transportation (DOT), and Mr. Cook informed him that DOT will provide free bridge inspections for a limited time and also provide free load limit signs for bridges. The Board agreed for Mr. Minor to request the inspections and signs.

Discussion was held regarding obtaining a vehicle for Mr. Minor and the possibility of furnishing Mr. Bobby Ammons with a small truck and allowing Mr. Minor to use Bobby's Balzer.

Commissioner Butler advised that he will also need a vehicle for Rick Bailey, Field Assistant.

Attorney Green returned and presented the Finding of Facts, regarding the termination of Mr. Roland Wilkerson, for the Board's signature.

The Board authorized Chairman Young to execute the certification of participation form for the DCA Drug Control and System Improvement Program Grant. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved change order #2 on the Blue Ridge Road project in the amount of \$15,443.00 for the construction of a deceleration lane off of Highway 20. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved two interlocal agreements for CDBG grant monies, one for the City of Paxton and one for the City of Freeport. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented information for the Commissioner's review, from the Florida Counties Foundation, regarding the Year 2000 Compliance.

Mr. Bell also presented two letters to the Board for review, one from Northwest Florida Water Management and one from Beach to Bay Connection.

Commissioner Butler advised that Regional Utilities has lost the use of three (3) wells due to salt water intrusion and requested the Board draft a resolution declaring a temporary water emergency. Mr. Bell will contact Mr. Dewey Wilson, General Manager of Florida Community Services Inc., and report back to the Board.

Mr. Bell presented a letter written to Representative Westbrook from Jody Jones, regarding support of the 30-A initiatives. The Board authorized

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support of the concept, naming Highway 30-A as a Scenic Highway, but stated that they are not in support of applying the Scenic 98 Guidelines. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell informed the Commissioners that a strategic planning workshop has been scheduled for June 9, 1998, 9:00 a.m., for Okaloosa, Walton, and Santa Rosa Counties to discuss water and transportation.

The Board approved payment of an invoice to Joe Money Machinery in the amount of \$604.43 for repairs, District 3. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to reimburse Kevin Dell, Glendale Fire Department, \$2,800 for wages lost while attending school for additional fireman's training. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. This will be paid from the Glendale Volunteer Fire Department's budget.

The Board approved for Dede Hinote, Office of Management and Budget, to attend a conference regarding fuel tanks. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Chairman to grant permission for County employees to attend meetings and approve travel subject to informing the Board at the next scheduled meeting. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board authorized Attorney Miller and Mr. Ronnie Bell to attend a conference in Tallahassee on March 24, 1998. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger stated that there is a 40 acre parcel of property located next to Turkey Creek Pit which is for sale at an asking price of \$60,000. The Board agreed to core the property before conducting an appraisal. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board advised Commissioner Infinger to contact Ms. Ima Jean Connell and offer \$1,500 for a parcel of property which is approximately 1/2 to 3/4 of an acre. A drainage problem exists on McCullough Road and the County would like to purchase the property to correct the problem.

The Commissioners agreed to hold two special meetings on April 7 and April 21, 1998, at 8:30 a.m., for the purpose of reviewing bills for payment. These meetings will be scheduled for a trial basis. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for District 3 to purchase 1000 tons of milled

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asphalt at \$12.00 per ton from Couch Construction. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved payment of an invoice in the amount of \$1,460 to Gum Creek Farms for a running path at Walton High School and paving of the right-of-way at the residence of Gary Holmes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

William A. Young, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk