

WORKSHOP

APRIL 7, 1997

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, April 7, 1997, 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, Commissioner Joel Paul, Jr., Commissioner Randall Infinger and Commissioner Gordon Porter. The Board's Administrative Supervisor, Ronnie Bell, was also present.

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

Mike Obrien, new General Manager of Environmental Waste Services (EWS), appeared before the Board to introduce himself and receive questions. The Board directed Rusty Floyd, Landfill Supervisor, and Ronnie Hudson, Public Works Director, to meet with Mr. Obrien regarding questions concerning house counts and recyclables.

Jack Rhodes, Planning Department, appeared before the Board to present staff recommendations regarding vendor permitting. Mr. Rhodes suggested to rescind Ordinance 82-6 relating to roadside vendors, adopt a vendor permit procedure, adopt procedures for temporary uses and continue the moratorium on issuing permits for vending until the permitting process is solved. The Board agreed to not allow vending, including roadside vending, within Scenic Corridors. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. The Board agreed to extend the moratorium on vending permits.

Robert Dobson, representing Gulf Power, appeared before the Board, along with other utility representatives, to discuss the Scenic Corridor Guidelines Ordinance. A provision in the ordinance states that "all electric, cable t.v. and telephone feeds from public rights-of-way to buildings must be underground. All air conditioning units, transformers, backflow preventers or other utility devices must be screened from public view. All power feeds from primary utility lines to individual sites must be underground. No overhead feeds across U.S. 98 are permitted. Jack and bore method is required for these connections."

Mr. Rhodes stated that he is specifically concerned with three businesses: ACE Hardware, Twin Cities Medical Clinic and Linn's Kitchens at this time. Mr. Dobson asked why the ordinance is being enforced now when the

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ordinance became effective in January 1996. Mr. Rhodes stated that the Scenic 98 Committee were reviewing applications until now and there were some oversights in the applications. Several representatives from various utility companies stated they were not aware of the ordinance prohibiting overhead lines within the Scenic Corridors. Mr. Rhodes stated that he is only dealing with ACE Hardware, Linn's Kitchens and Twin Cities Medical Clinic and future projects. Commissioner Paul asked what was on the approved plans for these three businesses, overhead lines or underground. Mr. Rhodes stated he would research that information. Mr. Rhodes suggested that the secondary power source and primary feeds be underground until the utility companies can develop a plan for Highway 98 (regarding the future four-laning). Mr. Dobson stated that the cost will be passed on to the customer. Mr. Rhodes suggested to delete the language in the ordinance relating to primary source and jack and bore due to future four laning plans on Highway 98. Jody Jones, representing the Scenic 98 Association, stated that she feels the Association would not agree with deleting a portion of the ordinance.

John Linn, owner of Linn's Kitchen, stated that his plans were approved for overhead lines. Now, to install underground lines will be too costly.

Jim Hutchenson, representing Twin Cities Medical Clinic, stated that he would comply with what his approved plans called for. The Board agreed to direct the three businesses in question to comply with their approved plans regarding underground or overhead lines.

The Board agreed to schedule a workshop with representatives from utility companies on April 14, 1997 beginning at 8:30 a.m., to discuss this matter further.

Ronnie Bell, County Administrator, presented a draft resolution stating that the County Commissioners urge Congress to extend the July 19 deadline for the Environmental Protection Agency's final decision regarding new standards for Particulate Matter and Ozone to allow time for research to demonstrate the need for revising air quality standards. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Ray Padgett, representing the Darlington Community Center Association, appeared before the Board to request \$2000 to help purchase materials needed to repair the windows in the school building. The Board agreed to transfer \$2000 from contingencies to donate to the Darlington Community Center/Voting Precinct for necessary repairs. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

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Mr. Bell opened the advertised bid 97-102: Oak Grove Bridge located in District 2. The bids were as follows:

North Florida Construction Company	\$149,485.00
Murphree Bridge Corporation	\$110,465.04
Southeastern Mechanical Contracting	\$116,764.95
Delta Marine Constructors	\$188,828.00

Mr. Bell opened the advertised bid 97-103: Wheel Loader for the landfill. The bids were as follows:

Thompson Tractor Company	\$100,847.00
less trade-in of CAT IT12B CAT IT14G	\$ 81,347.00
Tractor and Equipment Company	\$ 90,728.00
less trade-in of CAT IT12B Komatsu WA120-1	\$ 59,728.00
Beard Equipment	\$ 93,400.00
less trade-in of CAT IT12B John Deere 444-H	\$ 71,400.00
Berco Equipment	\$ 87,133.00
less trade-in of CAT IT12B JCB 416	\$ 65,133.00
Berco Equipment	\$ 89,330.00
less trade-in of CAT IT12B Sam Sung ST120-2	\$ 67,330.00

This concludes the bid opening.

Thomas Jennings presented a letter to the Board regarding a stormwater runoff problem associated with the Lucky 13 Truck Stop. Mr. Jennings stated that the holding pond on the Truck Stop property is not holding the water and the runoff is coming onto his property. Mr. Jennings stated that for some reason, Roger Wright, owner of Lucky 13, has cut a hole in the Truck Stop parking lot and run a pipe under the curbing into the easement again funneling the water directly onto his property. The Board agreed to direct the County Attorney to prepare a letter to Mr. Wright advising him to correct the drainage problem on Mr. Jennings' property within a period of thirty days. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board recessed briefly.

Mary Lou Reed presented a Jobs and Education Partnership (JEP) update. Mrs. Reed also presented the Joint Employment and Training Plan update. The Board agreed to approve the Joint Employment and Training Plan as presented. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. Mrs. Reed advised the Board that there are three vacancies on the JEP Board, Gene Smith, Wayne Bodie and David Johnson have resigned. Mrs. Reed advised of a special training session workshop to be held in Fort Walton on April 9, 1997 and a JEP Board meeting

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on June 11 through 13, 1997 to be held in Pensacola.

The Board agreed to purchase asphalt for the VFW Post and the Church of Christ (located across from Walton Regional Hospital) parking lots. The Board has previously approved this action. The VFW Post and Church of Christ will reimburse the County for the asphalt. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Joel Montgomery appeared before the Board and gave a brief report on Doctor's Memorial Hospital located in Perry, Florida.

The Board agreed to allow Ronnie Bell, Ronnie Hudson and Mike Barker to attend a meeting in Tallahassee on April 17, 1997.

This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to approve an easement to Gulf Power giving access to provide power to the United Way office located behind the Farmer's Market. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to advertise for a public hearing on May 19, 1997 at 5:05 p.m., to consider two small-scale amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to approve a satisfaction of lien for bills owed by Edward and Pat McLendon in the amounts of \$187.95 and \$206.20 to Valley Springs Hospital and Alphonso and Frederica Copeland in the amounts of \$286.20, \$121.05 and \$227.95. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to approve a cancellation of Miscellaneous License Agreement regarding a parcel of property that was utilized as a sanitary landfill by the County. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell reminded the Board of a meeting to be held in Dothan, Alabama on Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The Commissioners, Road Foremen and Assistant Road Foremen are invited to attend.

Mr. Bell presented a copy of the proposed Animal Control Ordinance for the Board's review.

Mr. Bell presented a revised copy of the Walton County Personnel Policies.

Chairman Young and Mr. Bell gave a brief update on the joint meeting regarding the proposed spray field to be located near Juniper Lake. Commissioner Porter suggested to petition the state to authorize a grant to provide septic lines to the Juniper Lake area.

Sheriff McMillian requested to appear before the Board during the

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regular workshop on April 21, 1997.

Mr. Bell presented the February Walton Correctional Institution Inmate Report.

Mr. Bell presented a complaint from residents on Satsuma Street in Choctaw Beach regarding dogs.

Chairman Young and Mr. Bell advised of a meeting with Doug Barr, representing the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD), regarding establishing a water authority in Walton County. The Board agreed to request that the NFWFMD take the lead in researching the possibility of establishing a water authority in Walton County. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from the Assistant State Attorney regarding office space provided by the County. The letter stated that it would not be in the best interest of the State Attorney's clients for the office to be located in the same building as the Public Defender's office.

Mr. Bell advised the Board that the April 21, 1997 workshop will be held in the Courtroom due to the Maude Saunders Fifth Grade Class attending the meeting.

Mr. Bell presented the proposed job description for Personnel Director.

Mr. Bell presented the proposed job description for Grants Coordinator.

Mr. Bell presented a presentation on a Walton County Centralized Road Plan. This plan consisted of three zones within the county showing the five district offices. Discussion followed. The Board agreed to review the proposed plan and schedule a workshop at a later date to discuss the matter further.

Commissioner Infinger advised the Board that the district mail carrier visited his house Saturday and stated that , in her opinion, Walton County roads were the best maintained.

The Board agreed to allow Commissioner Infinger to complete a soil conservation project on Ronald Herring's property located on Brown Road. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to approve removal of contaminated hay on Clarence Hobbs' property to be used on county rights-of-way. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Chairman Young discussed the sod farm located in Districts 2 and 3. The Board had previously agreed to share the cost of the fertilizer among Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4. The Board reaffirmed this previous agreement.

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Commissioner Infinger advised of a mistake in the recorded deed to the Brown Pit. The Board will direct Attorney Miller to prepare a corrected deed.

Jon Hufstedler, Administrator of Walton Regional Hospital, addressed the Board regarding the lease extension. This item is scheduled at 5:00 p.m. on tomorrow's regular meeting agenda.

Bobby Ammons, Assistant Public Works Director, appeared before the Board to request that a crane be purchased or leased/purchased. Commissioner Porter stated that a pile driver is also needed. The Board agreed to allow Mr. Ammons to collect prices on a crane and pile driver. Mr. Ammons requested permission for Olin Singletary, crane operator, and himself to test operate cranes which are being considered for purchase. The Board agreed.

Mr. Ammons advised the Board that F&W Construction Company has beams available at a discounted price.

The Board agreed to transfer \$1500 from contingencies to the Freeport Town Planners Society for a Beautification Project. The funds were approved during fiscal year 1995-96 but were never disbursed. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Hilton Galloway, auditor, presented the 1995-96 Audit Report. The Board stated that they have not had an opportunity to read the report to ask questions. The Board agreed to approve the report for distribution to the public. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to adopt a resolution allowing the Clerk of Courts to change banks in the south end of the county to SunTrust due to a courier service being available. Commissioner Infinger stated that he will refrain from voting on this matter due to his wife working at SunTrust. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, presented recommendations of names to be appointed to serve on the Contractor's Competency Board. The Board agreed to appoint the following to serve: Max Mathews - General Contractor, Robert Andrews - Electrical, Jim Craig - Mechanical, Burrell Elliot - Residential and Wade Fleshman - Lay Person. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

There being no further business, Chairman Young adjourned the Workshop at 12:30 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

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William A. Young, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk