

WORKSHOP

JUNE 10, 1996

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, June 10, 1996, 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 Virginia D. Pridgen, Commissioner Charles C. Harris, Commissioner Gerald Wilkerson and Commissioner Rosier Cuchens, Jr. The Board's Administrative Supervisor, Ronnie Bell, was also present.

Chairman Porter called the meeting to order.

Bobby Ammons, Assistant Public Works Director, presented an invoice from Jeff Brown, P.G. in the amount of \$12,375.00 for geologic services associated with the Central Landfill. The bill covers remediation activities from October 1995 through May 30, 1996. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Tom Powell, Director of the Economic Development Council, presented the Board with an update on a prospective business locating in Walton County. Mr. Powell stated that the Walton County Economic Development Council was approached by Robert E. Capps of "Blue Ridge: The Item Company," regarding a business he proposes to relocate to Walton County. He requested that we support his company's efforts to obtain relocation incentives from the Board of Commissioners. The two incentives most likely to influence Blue Ridge's location decision in favor of Walton County are exemption from county ad valorem taxes and participation in a Community Development Block Grant loan for economic development. The Board agreed to allow Chairman Porter sign a letter advising of the Board's willingness to proceed with the incentive request and directing Mr. Powell and Ronnie Bell to negotiate with the Company further. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, advised that Jim Patterson is scheduled on the agenda tomorrow to request the Board's approval to rent motor scooters on Highway 98.

The Board agreed to advertise for a public hearing for July 9, 1996 at 8:45 A.M., to consider an ordinance establishing a No Wake Zone in Mallet Bayou. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to advertise for a public hearing for July 9, 1996 at 8:50 A.M., to consider amending the Contractor Competency Board ordinance.

This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to allow Chairman Porter to sign the contract extending the Ecosystem Management Program deadline. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Williams advised that Jeff Prescott would be appearing before the Board tomorrow to seek approval of locating a Medical Center on New 98. Mrs. Williams stated that normally this would be considered a minor project, but on April 30, 1996 the Board declared all projects within the Scenic Corridor as major; therefore, unless a special provision is made, this project will not go before the Planning Commission until October.

Perry Wooten appeared before the Board to discuss his warehouse business located on Holiday Road. Mr. Wooten stated that Holiday Road was not paved correctly and that he sees more construction trucks on the road than semis. Mr. Wooten stated that he is making provisions for semis on his property. Mrs. Williams stated that the County Attorney will have a report on the Holiday Road issue tomorrow.

Betty Hagan with the Department of Revenue appeared before the Board to request a resolution of support to ask that the Child Support Enforcement Office remain located in DeFuniak Springs and not be moved to Crestview. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda and forward a copy to the legislative delegation.

John Hufstedler, Administrator of Walton Regional Hospital, presented the Quarterly Report.

Mr. Hufstedler requested to remove two rooms of old medical records. These records date back to the 1940's. Healthmark has stated they will follow the guidelines of the General Records Schedule for Hospital Records. Attorney Miller is reviewing the records.

Mr. Hufstedler requested that surplus County owned hospital equipment be stored at a County storage facility. The equipment is being removed from the first floor to allow Healthmark additional room for a new physician's office. The Board agreed to remove the equipment and place it in the storage building at the County Shop.

The Board discussed placing the Mott Sign Machine, boom truck and the surplus hospital equipment in the County Auction.

Chairman Porter stated that there is public controversy regarding the County purchasing the 27 Mack Trucks. The Board agreed that the public needs to become more aware of the cost effectiveness. Chairman Porter stated that

the County will be using the equipment for practically nothing due to the resale value.

The Board recessed briefly.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Brice Nist of Connelly & Wicker Inc., regarding stop signs in Driftwood Estates. Commissioner Cuchens stated that he would take care of erecting the stop signs.

Mr. Bell stated that Paul Bronson is on the agenda tomorrow to request that the Board upgrade his Development Permit to rent chairs, umbrellas and boats, to include the rental of waverunners. Mr. Bronson is under contract with the development of Maravilla to provide the above services to their guests.

Susan Tremain, representing Cablevision, appeared before the Board to request that their two cable franchises be extended and combined into one franchise. Discussion followed. The Board agreed to have the County Attorney review the agreements.

Mr. Bell stated that at the last Board Meeting he presented a letter from the Walton County Fire Board regarding the installation of fire hydrants along the water systems being constructed to connect the City of DeFuniak Springs system to the King Lakes and Ten Lakes Estates systems. Mr. Bell stated that he spoke with the City Manager of DeFuniak Springs regarding the hydrants and he stated that the hydrants would cost approximately \$900.00 each including installation. The City does not have the money to place hydrants along the two systems. Commissioner Harris stated that he would like to check into this matter further. Mr. Bell stated that he would meet with the Fire Chief to get a recommended number of hydrants.

Mr. Bell stated that he received a letter from Lynn Timbrook, Vice-President of Engineering and Operations for Chelco, regarding four incidents in May where dump truck bodies pulled four neutral power lines down. Mr. Timbrook asked that the Board remind their crews about the dangers of power lines when they are out working. Vice-Chairman Pridgen suggested to place a letter in the payroll reminding the crews of such dangers.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Frances Statz that the rent for the office space of the Public Defender be increased from \$250.00 to \$350.00. The reason for the increase in rent is because they are now using the upstairs portion of the building. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented an agreement between the Board of Commissioners and

the Walton County School Board to assist them in site work at the Van R. Butler Elementary School to be located in South Walton. The agreement has certain time restraints and conditions that the Board does not feel they can follow and still fulfill the County's regular work obligations. The Board agreed to meet with James King, Superintendent of Schools, to discuss the agreement further.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Stan Tail, President of the Florida Beaches and Shores Association, for the Board to adopt a resolution supporting the Shore Protection Act of 1996. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented the May Prison Work Squad Report on the inmates squads used throughout Walton County.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from J. C. Morrison that the Board consider using some of the proceeds from the Small County Surtax to pick up white goods at residents homes. He stated that Dayco and EWS do not pick up white goods and it is hard for the elderly to dispose of these items. The Board agreed to look into Dayco and EWS contracts.

Mr. Bell presented a draft copy of the May issue of the Walton County Commissioners' News for the Board's review.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of the Legislative Review to be held at the EOC Building on Monday, June 17, 1996 beginning at 10:00 A.M. This event is being sponsored by Florida Association of Counties.

Mr. Bell presented a facsimile request from Julian Webb to amend the Economic Development Grant Contract work plan to reflect completion of the Mossy Head Truck Stop in October and November of this year. The contract requires completion in October. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from the Okaloosa County Supervisor of Elections to utilize a Walton County truck and driver to move their voting machines. The Board agreed to approve the request if the County Attorney agrees.

Mr. Bell presented a list of twenty-one trucks (from Districts 1, 3, 4 and 5) to be sold by open bid and the suggested minimum bids for each vehicle. The Board reviewed the information provided by Jim Keeler, District 1 Road Foreman.

The Board discussed implementing an Occupational License in Walton County. Mr. Bell suggested that the Board appoint a committee to study a

like county's licenses which was adopted under the 1994 guidelines and make a recommendation to the Board.

Commissioner Cuchens stated that funds have been received to rebuild the County owned public walkovers. The Board agreed to advertise for bids and get started on the project.

Vice-Chairman Pridgen stated that the clay pit located on Webster Lane is no longer useable. The Board agreed to advertise for bids on the property. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Vice-Chairman Pridgen stated that all purchase requisitions for District 2 are to be signed by District 2 employees only.

The Board discussed allowing surtax funds to be used to allow individuals remodeling their homes to take building debris to the County Landfill. The Board also discussed the past misuses of this practice.

Chairman Porter stated that the Government will not sell the property located at Mossy Head but may negotiate a land swap. The Board agreed to continue to try to obtain the property for an Industrial Park.

Fonsoe B. Locke addressed the Board and voiced his approval of the Board on a job well done.

There being no further business, Chairman Porter adjourned the Workshop.

APPROVED: _____

Gordon Porter, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Catherine King, Clerk