

WORKSHOP

JUNE 21, 1999

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, June 21, 1999, at 8:30 a.m., in the Commission Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following members were present: Chairman Joel Paul, Jr., Vice-Chairman Van Ness Butler, Jr., Commissioner Gene Ryan, Commissioner Randall Infinger, and Commissioner Herman Walker. Ronnie E. Bell, Administrative Supervisor, Mr. George R. Miller, County Attorney, 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.

Mrs. Suedelle Wilkerson, Finance Supervisor, presented the Expenditure Approval List consisting of the following bills for payment approval:

General Fund	\$113,465.89
County Transportation Trust	92,627.09
Section 8 Housing	36.03
Tourist Development	10,945.98
N.W. Mosquito Control	189.49
Library	321.97
Solid Waste Enterprise	463.17
Darlington VFD	2,155.45
TDC	22,750.25
SHIP	12,774.36
TDC	6,434.26
General Fund	101,533.58
County Transportation	30,421.99
Library	8,250.00
County Transportation	302.80
Local Option Gas Tax	26,675.00

The Board approved and placed the payment of bills on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Wilkerson presented a payment request to Blue Cross Blue Shield for employee insurance premiums in the amount of \$100,645.18. The Board approved payment and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Wilkerson presented a payment request to Florida 4-H Foundation in the amount of \$450.00. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Dewey Wilson, Florida Community Services, appeared before the Board requesting approval to submit an application for sewer service for the Inlet Beach area, with the help of the developers paying the cost of line installation. Commissioner Butler stated that it is not feasible for the homeowners to install their own lines. The Board approved Mr. Wilson's request and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Wilson also presented a request to the Commissioners from General Brown of South Walton Utilities regarding the possibility of drafting a contract for the construction of a water line from Rock Hill to the bay. Commissioner Butler suggested charging a surcharge to assist in building a surface water reservoir.

Mayor Marse addressed the Commissioners and voiced his objections and stated that the City of Freeport still has one lawsuit pending. Attorney Clayton Adkison, Attorney for the City of Freeport, informed the Commissioners that an appeal may still be filed. He also suggested that a limit be placed on the amount of water that can be transported out of Walton County. The Board took this issue under advisement.

Mr. Wilson requested authorization to submit a payment request to the Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$69,699.00. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger asked the Board to consider the possibility of purchasing Morrison Springs as a possible source of water. The Board agreed and instructed Attorney Miller, along with Hartman & Associates, to look into the feasibility of the purchase. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Tom Canter and Kevin Gorm, Department of Revenue, appeared before the Commissioners regarding a GIS mapping system to be used by the Property Appraiser's Office. Mr. Canter explained the purpose of the system and stated that the mapping is used for parcel maps. Mr. Tom Blackshear, Planner, explained that this type of system varies slightly from the GIS mapping that the Planning Department requires. The Board voiced concern with duplicating services. Mr. Canter agreed to meet with the firm selected as the County's choice for mapping and all County departments in need of the GIS system. Mr. Blackshear will set up the meeting.

Ms. Carol McCrite, South Walton Arts Alliance, appeared before the Commissioners to inform them of activities relating to the arts. Ms. McCrite stated that the Arts Alliance has invited the Swamp Gray Institute of Colquitt Georgia to perform in Walton County and requested \$2,500.00 to assist with related cost. She also stated that they will be working on a performance depicting the history of Walton County. Commissioner Walker stated that this should be supported with private funding. Mr. Bodiford, Clerk of Court, stated that he will donate \$1,250.00 and challenged the Arts Alliance to find a match for the funds. Several Commissioners felt that the Arts of Walton County should be supported and agreed to vote on this issue

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 3

during Tuesday's regular meeting.

Mrs. Melissa Beasley, Supervisor of Elections, appeared before the Board and presented information relating to new voting machines. Mrs. Beasley stated that she has considered various types of machines and feels the Accu-Vote voting system will best serve Walton County's needs. Mrs. Beasley advised that the new system needs to be in place by March 2000. She also advised that the new system will provide a cost savings in personnel needed for transporting and maintenance of the old machines. Discussion was held relating to the disposal of the old machines and the needed space.

Ms. Jackie Malone, United Volunteer Fire Department, appeared before the Commissioners regarding the Cost Recovery Ordinance 97-32 for fire departments. Ms. Malone stated that the ordinance needs revising to include reimbursement for personnel and vehicles for time spent responding to calls. Attorney Miller advised that the amendment requires a public hearing or must be adopted as an emergency. The Board approved to advertise to hold a public hearing on July 27, 1999, 8:35 a.m., to consider amending Ordinance 97-32 for fire departments. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Charles Carlan, Carlan Killam Consulting Group, scheduled on the agenda, was rescheduled due to the length of his presentation. The Board scheduled a special workshop on Monday, June 28, 1999, 9:00 a.m., for a presentation by Mr. Carlan regarding the South Walton Governmental Center facilities. The meeting will be held at the Tourist Development Council Building in South Walton.

Mrs. Mary Angert appeared before the Board requesting additional lighting be placed at the intersection of Jolly Bay Road and U.S. Highway 331 South due to the dangerous intersection.

Mr. Tom Moore appeared before the Board regarding the drainage problem on Mr. Shaffler's property (previously owned by Vernon Bishop). Attorney Miller stated that the property is a natural drainage and the County should not be responsible for damages. Mr. Moore will set up a meeting between himself, Attorney Miller, Mr. Shaffler, Commissioner Butler, and Hartman & Associates. Commissioner Walker advised that he requested a Soil Conservation report for that property and is waiting for the final report.

Mr. Rusty Floyd, Landfill Supervisor, appeared before the Commissioners and advised that Mr. Billy Rogers of The Timber Company is requesting the County grant them an easement to enter their property through the landfill. Mr. Floyd also stated that The Timber Company is willing to sell 730 acres,

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 4

adjacent to the Landfill, to Walton County. The Board approved to have an appraisal conducted on the 730 acres adjoining the Landfill. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board also approved to grant an easement to The Timber Company for a 12 month period allowing access through the Landfill property to allow them to remove timber from their property. The request of the Timber Company for dirt, to correct a drainage problem, will be considered at the Board meeting. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Discussion was held regarding the Litter Grant funds and dividing it between the districts. Mr. Floyd explained that certain criteria was placed on spending the funds and wanted to make the Commissioners aware of that. The Board agreed to divide the Litter Grant funds evenly between each of the five districts. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Delois Carroll, Walton County Health Department Finance Director, informed the Commissioners that the land site being considered for the North Walton Health Department has been sold and requested direction from the Board for a new site. Commissioner Infinger advised that he is working with State Representative Durell Peaden, on a site located within the City limits and will contact Ms. Carroll as soon as possible.

Mr. Roy Cassidy appeared before the Commissioners regarding his desire to renovate the Valley View Community Center, upgrading the center to be used as a fall out shelter during emergencies. Mr. Cassidy stated that he has spoken with Captain Tom Pagels, Sheriff's Department, regarding grant funds for the renovations. The Board approved for Mrs. Angie Biddle, Grants Coordinator, to work with Mr. Cassidy and Captain Pagels to coordinate grant funding for the Valley View Community Center. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Mary Lou Reed, Jobs and Education Partnership Board, appeared before the Board and stated that the interlocal agreement needs Board approval because of the amendments. The Board agreed to discuss this issue further during Tuesday's regular scheduled meeting.

Mr. Jim Anders, American Tower, appeared before the Board requesting to lease a portion of Regional Utilities' property located in South Walton, which is owned by the County, for a communication tower site. Mr. Anders stated that their company normally leases property sites for a period of five years with four additional five year periods. Attorney Miller advised that the same opportunity must be offered to other individuals. Mr. Miller will

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 5

research the issue further regarding the lease of County property.

Mr. David Kramer appeared before the Board regarding a parcel of property located adjacent to the District 1 yard. Mr. Kramer stated that he would like to offer the property to the County before advertising it for sell to the public. Mr. Kramer advised that the County will be responsible for reclaiming the berm due to previous excavation by the County. The cost for the 10 acre parcel is \$2,500.00 per acre. The Board agreed to discuss this issue further at a later time and Mr. Kramer will not advertise it to the public for a period of 30 days.

Mr. Kramer also advised the Commissioners that his street sign has been stolen on numerous occasions and suggested the Commissioners replace it with a concrete type sign post that cannot be removed as easily. Mr. Kramer advised that he placed a 4X4 post with the street name on it until the Commissioners have the opportunity to replace the sign.

The Board approved right-of-entry agreements for the following individuals: Mrs. Gipson, District 1, to fill an old well; Judy Jones, District 3, to place a dumpster due to burn out; the following agreements are for the widening of Williams Road, District 3, Jeff Daughtery, Gene A. Jones, Douglass Jones, James M. Banski, Joey C. Jones, Arnold Evans. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved right-of-entry agreements for Granger Bruner and M.L. Cawthon, Jr. for the widening and paving of Williams Road, District 3. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell informed the Commissioners that Ms. Debbie VonBehren has requested to meet with the Commissioners individually. The Commissioners approved and Mr. Bell will set a time for each of them to meet.

The Board approved to hire Wade Welle, Paramedic and Richard Allison, EMT, as part-time EMS personnel. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented information to the Commissioners relating to the balance of funds remaining in the General Fund and CTT contingency accounts as of June 17, 1999.

Mr. Bell presented a letter of request from Emerald Coast Beach Service, Inc., for a vehicle beach permit variance. Commissioner Butler advised the Commissioners of new DEP requirements for beach cleaning equipment and stated that he will contact Emerald Coast Beach Services for additional information.

The Board approved Friday, December 31, 1999, as the County's New

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 6

Year's Day Holiday for the year 2000. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Panama City Flyers Cycling Club to use CR183, CR 280 & Knox Hill Road for a bicycle race on September 11, 1999. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Mr. Ronnie Bell, Administrative Supervisor, and the County Commissioners to attend the Florida Association of County Trust Conference on August 12 and 13, 1999, in Lake City, Florida. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to submit a letter to Carey, O'Malley, Whitaker and Manson terminating their services with Walton County regarding the WRP lawsuit and approve payment in the amount of \$3,579.75. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from Ms. Jean King, regarding an EMS bill. Ms. King stated that medical and funeral expenses exceeded the funds available in the estate and requested the Commissioners consider reducing the amount of charges incurred from EMS. Attorney Miller will research the issue and report back to the Board at a later date.

The Board approved to continue the current contract with the Department of Corrections for the correctional officer position at the landfill. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to continue the current contracts with the Department of Corrections for the inmate squads provided to the County as follows: ten inmates for the utility squad; fifty inmates for the district squads; fifteen inmates for the landfill squads. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bill Collier, District 2 resident, appeared before the Commissioners to request assistance with an erosion problem in his driveway, which he feels the county caused. Mr. Collier stated that Commissioner Walker has declined to assist because he does not feel the problem is county related. Commissioner Ryan will contact Mr. Miner, County Engineer, and have him look into the situation.

The Board approved to move forward with the 1999 CDBG Projects, but delay payment to Preble-Rish, Inc., Consulting Engineers, in the amount of \$103,090.00, until the next budget year. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the amended CDBG Procurement Plan relating to

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 7

conflict of interest and Women/Minority-owned Businesses for submittal to DCA. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented Mr. Jim McFarland's time/cost schedule for the Mossy Head land swap. The Board approved to amend the contract between Walton County and Conservation Real Estate Group to \$91,500.00 for the Mossy Head property exchange. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved modification #4 of the Local Mitigation Strategy Plan allowing the third and fourth quarter deliverables due on October 31, 1999, and allow Chairman Paul to sign four copies of the agreement. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to allow the Public Works Department to proceed with stripping of the two parking lots on the East side of the Courthouse. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the purchase of two (2) 1999 Club Car Turf II XRT utility vehicles from Club Car, Augusta, Georgia, at an approximate cost of \$4,500.00 each and approved Litter Grant funds to be used if allowable. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for EMS to purchase an engine for a Jeep Cherokee. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for EMS to purchase 12 lifepak monitor units from Physio-Control Corp, Redmond, WA., in the amount of \$88,362.00, with grant funds This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Red Bay Volunteer Fire Department to purchase six (6) aluminum air cylinders in the amount of \$1,919.70, from Sunbelt Fire Apparatus, Fairhope, Alabama. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Red Bay Volunteer Fire Department to purchase turn-out gear in the amount of \$10,081.10 from Sunbelt Fire Apparatus. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Tourist Development Council to purchase upgraded telephone equipment from UniversalCom in the amount of \$2,751.10 for Y2K compliance. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to purchase reprints of newsletter shells for the TDC from Boyd Brothers in the amount of \$1,951.00. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Langdon Haynes, Purchasing Agent, requested clarification regarding the purchase of a fire truck for the City of DeFuniak Springs. Mr. Haynes questioned if the County was providing the funds to the City or if the City

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 8

would be required to utilize the Purchasing Department to advertise for bids. Mr. Bell will contact the City Manager and request he appear at the next workshop to answer questions.

The Board approved repairs to the Darlington/Gaskin VFD truck #302 in the amount of \$1,080.42. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Landfill to purchase a gear box in the amount of \$1,041.00 from Davis Dyar Supply Co., Dothan, Alabama. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Purchasing Department to order and position a loaded fuel tanker at the county complex in the event of a disaster. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Purchasing Department to purchase a 5000 kw generator to be installed at the county complex fuel site. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the Purchasing Department to obtain a bank credit card with a spending limit of \$25,000.00, to be used for disaster related purchases. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Haynes informed the Commissioners that he has purchased spare batteries for the 800 mhz radios in the event of an emergency.

The Board approved to readvertise the position of Warehouse helper/runner for the Purchasing Department at a salary of \$6.40 - \$6.80 per hour. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Haynes presented a request to raise Donna Weekley's salary 40 cent per hour. Mr. Haynes explained that Mrs. Weekley is the Sr. Buyer for the Purchasing Department and was given an excellent evaluation and her daily performance is outstanding. Discussion was held regarding the length of time Mrs. Weekley has been in this position and the amount of raise she received when accepting the position. Several of the Commissioners stated that they feel an employee should be in a position for at least six months before being given a raise and stated that they want to abide by the pay scale when granting raises.

Mr. Haynes presented a request to approve the position of Jr. Buyer at an hourly rate of \$10.20 - \$10.60 per hour. The Commissioners deferred this item until Mrs. Robinson, Human Resource Officer, can present a job description.

Commissioner Butler questioned Mr. Haynes regarding the bid specifications for the paving projects in Inlet Beach, West Park Avenue. Mr.

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 9

Haynes stated that he has not been informed of the situation. Commissioner Ryan will research the issue.

Mr. Hilton Galloway, Auditor, presented an update relating to the ongoing search for \$392,000.00. Mr. Galloway stated that the funds have not yet been accounted for and explained the various methods he has used in attempting to locate the funds. The Commissioners requested a continual update as he progresses through his audit.

Mrs. Martha Ingle, Budget Officer, presented budget amendment #7 for the Commissioners review and stated that the advertised public hearing is scheduled for tomorrow's regular scheduled meeting.

The Board approved for Dan Trotman and Ken Little to attend code enforcement training in Tallahassee July 18-24, 1999 at a cost of \$814.00 each. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved travel expenses for Dan Trotman to use his personal vehicle to attend training in Tallahassee. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Ms. Williams informed the Commissioners that Carlan Killam Consulting Group requested to add \$7,200.00 to their contract for food consultation services for construction of the Sheriff's Department kitchen addition. Attorney Miller will review the contract.

Mr. Miner requested a tasker to assist with the designs for the parking lot on Sloss Avenue. The Board directed Mr. Miner to contact Preble-Rish Engineering Firm.

The Board approved repairs to the well at the Landfill in the amount of \$1,705.00 to Kelly Environmental. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Miner presented information to the Commissioners regarding the purchase of the RACO. Hamm Compactors Inc. has stated that 100% of the lease payments will be applied toward the purchase price and has also offered a 20% discount if purchased by October 1, 1999. The Commissioners will review the information and discuss this issue further at the next workshop.

The Board approved for Mr. Nelson Miner to attend the County Engineer's FAC conference in place of Commissioner Infinger. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Lynda Robinson presented the Personnel Committee's recommendations regarding the Drainage/Grading Crew. Discussion followed regarding the pay for the positions versus current county pay scales and the transferring of personnel from Districts to specialized crews. The Board agreed to discuss

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 10

this issue at a later time.

The Board agreed to accept the Personnel Committee's recommendation and hire Lauri Johnson at \$9.60 per hour for the position of Personnel Technician. This item was placed on the consent agenda. Ms. Allison Grant was selected as the alternate.

The Board approved to hire Robert Fitzgerald and Steven Carroll as full-time TDC Beach Maintenance workers at \$8.00 per hour. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to hire Leo Hill as contract laborer for TDC at \$8.00 per hour. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Robinson presented a pay request on behalf of Ms. Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, for Mr. Tom Blackshear in the amount of 80 cent per hour. Ms. Williams felt that Mr. Blackshear has performed in an excellent manner. The Board agreed to discuss this issue further during Tuesday's regular meeting.

The Board approved to transfer Kenneth Reynolds from the Drainage Crew to the Right-of-way Crew. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to waive the hiring policy and hire the following two (2) contract laborers, Lynn Messer and Ed Nelson, for Mosquito Control, due to the urgent need for these positions to be filled. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to allow Mrs. Angela Lindsey, Walton County employee located at the Health Department, to withdraw up to 240 hours from the sick leave pool while out on medical leave. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Robinson informed the Board that Mr. Steve Toepper, Librarian, has a balance of only 23.8 hours annual leave and requested how the Board wants to pay him while his position is being considered. The Board agreed to discuss this issue during Tuesday's regular meeting.

The Board approved the employee evaluation on Pete Tousignant, Beach Maintenance, and placed him in full-time employment status. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Robinson presented an employee evaluation on Francis Coe, Librarian I. The Board agreed to defer this issue for further discussion until Attorney Miller makes his presentation during Tuesday's regular meeting.

Mrs. Kriss Titus, Executive Director of the Tourist Development

Council, appeared before the Board and requested Maurice Gilbert be appointed to the South Walton Tourist Development Council, as recommended by the TDC. The Board agreed to vote on the recommendation on Tuesday.

Mrs. Titus updated the Commissioners on the progress of the beach renourishment project being performed by Taylor Engineering. Mrs. Titus stated that the contract balance is \$4,405.00. Discussion followed regarding federal funding for the project. Mrs. Titus stated that she will be holding a committee meeting and report back to the Commissioners for direction for the second phase.

The Board approved for District 2 employees to make the necessary repairs to the driveway of Mr. L.L. Ward, due to county work that was performed. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for District 2 to purchase and stockpile lime. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger requested authorization to work with Hartman & Associates to correct some drainage problems in District 3. The Board concurred.

Commissioner Infinger advised the Board that funding has fallen through for the purchase of the property for the YMCA on Walton Road. He further explained the need for the property and requested the County purchase the property for the YMCA at a cost of \$50,000.00. In return, the YMCA would purchase the necessary equipment, in the same amount, to be placed in the Wee Care Park over a period of time since immediate funding is not available. The Board took this issue under advisement.

Commissioner Infinger advised the Board that he has paved several short roads that lead off of other paving projects in his district. Mr. Infinger explained that the shorter roads were not part of the paving contract, however, feels that it is necessary to pave them along with the main roads to prevent future costly maintenance.

Commissioners Butler asked the Board to reconsider their previous action abolishing the Design Review Board and allow the appeals to go before the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Infinger requested Mr. Miller contact DCA for a legal opinion for allowing the Planning Staff to make the reviews.

Ms. Bonnie Blue, Scenic Corridor Association, addressed the Board and stated that the Design Review Board is willing to redraft some policies. Commissioner Walker stated that the Commissioners should make the final

June 21, 1999-WS

prepared by: D. Cordle 12

decision.

Mrs. Titus addressed the Commissioners regarding the importance of the Design Review Board.

The Board approved a right-of-entry for dumpsters to be placed on the property of Jeff Little and the Jackson family, District 5, due to burn outs. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved two variances for beach dog permits for Pat Neal, and Jack Bailey, both long-time lease holders in Walton County. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Tressia Tousignant to attend the FAC conference in place of Commissioner Butler.

Mr. Don Crim asked for the beach access signs be checked and replaced if necessary. He explained that some of the signs are deteriorating.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

Joel Paul, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk