

WORKSHOP

JULY 24, 1989

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, met in a regularly scheduled workshop session on Monday, July 24, 1989, at 8:00 A.M.

The following Board Members were present: Chairman Sam Pridgen, Vice-Chairman W.F. Miles, Commissioner Wilson Holley, Commissioner Robert G. Fleet, and Commissioner Donald D. Brown. The County's Administrative Supervisor, Mr. Ronnie E. Bell, was also present.

Chairman Pridgen called the workshop to order.

Mrs. Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, advised that First National Bank and Trust has foreclosed on approximately 32 lots with water and sewer taps. The bank is requesting that those taps be transferred to another site. The Board agreed to consult Mr. George Miller, County Attorney, regarding that matter.

Mrs. Williams stated that Florida Community Services Corporation (FCSC) is requesting that, rather than requiring a letter advising that water and sewage hook-ups are available before issuing a permit, the Building Department require a letter from FCSC advising that the water and sewage tap fees have been paid before issuing a permit. She further stated that the Board must direct the Building Department in this decision.

Mrs. Williams advised that the Planning Commission recommends that the preliminary plat of a Planned Unit Development named, "Shipwatch," be approved.

Mrs. Williams reminded the Board of the Public Hearing scheduled for the regular meeting of July 25, 1989, to consider amending the Subdivision Regulations. The amendment will allow developers to keep the roads within their projects private and unpaved providing that it is so designated on the deeds to the lots, and on the plat, and that signs are posted at each entrance advising of such. Also, a definition of "emergency maintenance" is included in the proposed amendment.

Mr. Bell advised that Mr. T.C. Campbell has compiled a list of nine prospective members of the Farmer's Market Committee for the Board's review and approval.

Mr. Bell stated that Mr. Jack Little, Tax Collector, has advised that he has adequate space in his current offices and, therefore, will not be moving to the old jail when renovations to it are complete. Mrs. Nellie Thompson, Supervisor of Elections, has advised that she would like to be moved to the renovated space of the old jail and will confer with the individual preparing the renovation plans regarding the Elections offices needs. Discussion followed regarding which Courthouse offices could be moved to the old jail once it is renovated.

Mr. Bell advised that, in the last County auction in 1987, Triple A Auction Services was awarded the bid and provided advertising for the County on a reimbursement basis. The advertising costs made up 1% of the total sales. The Board agreed that that is how it should be conducted for the upcoming auction. Commissioner Brown suggested that it should be an absolute auction. Discussion followed regarding various items to be put up for auction.

Mr. Bell advised that he has prepared a request for proposals on the removal and disposal of the steel barge at Hogtown Bayou. Mr. Bell further advised that Mr. Miller has contacted Eller Dredging to request that they fulfill their original contract to remove the barge. Discussion followed regarding placing a line item for that purpose in the budget proposals.

Mr. Bell stated that Mr. Miller is hoping to close out both land purchases, District 3 clay pit and prison site, tomorrow after the regular meeting.

Commissioner Brown advised that Mr. Bob Nabors, Tallahassee attorney, will be arriving at approximately 9:00 this morning to review various sources of funding for counties.

Commissioner Fleet stated that several Steel Field residents are considering requesting that Bay County annex two lots adjacent to its county line.

Commissioner Fleet advised of a procedure developed through the Small Business Administration and University of West Florida that recycles grass and certain other lawn cuttings in a mulch/fertilizer. A local nurseryman is attempting to implement this program within the County.

Commissioner Fleet stated that the recycling program suggested by Environmental Waste Systems involving separate bins appears to be worthwhile and should be given close consideration by the Board.

Commissioner Fleet advised that Mr. Dale Davis, South Walton resident, is requesting that an easement serving as the driveway into his property be abandoned by the County. Commissioner Fleet further advised that he recommends its abandonment.

Commissioner Fleet stated that a cooperative alliance between Walton County and the three surrounding counties regarding garbage and recycling programs may be the most economically feasible.

Commissioner Holley requested a list of all employees being paid as contract labor. He stated that he feels that some are being employed for a longer period of time than was agreed upon by the Board.

Commissioner Brown requested a list of all retired County employees whose portion of health insurance is still being paid by the County.

Chairman Pridgen advised that Mr. Miller suggested that the County withhold the \$1,500.00 contribution to the Florida Highway Patrol's Friends of the Fiftieth celebration until he confirms that it is a legal expenditure.

Mr. J.R. Ward, Shop Mechanic, submitted his resignation.

Commissioner Holley suggested that the County may consider sending County mechanics to schools instructing mechanics in the repair of the new computerized vehicles and heavy equipment. Commissioner Fleet advised that the new Vocational-Technical Center in Walton County will be receiving a "high-tech" equipment tester and that students will be trained in its operation. They may assist in the County's needed repairs requiring computerized technology.

The Board recessed for five minutes.

Mr. George Nickerson, partner in the Tallahassee law firm of Nabors, Giblin, Steffens & Nickerson, appeared before the Board to review the various sources of funding available to Counties. Mr. Nickerson reviewed the advantages, disadvantages, and statutes governing ad valorem taxes, Municipal Service Tax Units (MSTU), Municipal Service Benefit Units (MSBU), sales tax, Tourist Development Council bed tax, Impact Fees, and gas tax. Mr. Nickerson provided a booklet outlining

his presentation. General discussion followed. Mr. Nickerson advised that his firm is available to the County if the Board should desire to contract their services. The Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. Nickerson for the informative presentation.

Mr. Joe Cain, representing the Department of General Services, appeared before the Board to review the County's needs in radio communication. Mr. Cain recommended that the EMS communication system go to high band and work off the Sheriff's tower. He also recommended that the Road and Bridge radios convert to high band. Civil Defense and the volunteer fire departments can remain on the low band. The prices suggested by Mr. Cain were the maximum prices for the equipment, but the equipment can be obtained at much lower prices by advertising for bids and buying off the state contract price. Mr. Cain advised that a high-band license must first be obtained before updating the equipment or acquiring a frequency. The Board thanked Mr. Cain.

Mrs. Martha Ingle, Deputy Clerk, advised the Board of a petition from Reynolds Hill's residents requesting toll-free calls to DeFuniak Springs.

Mr. Ronnie Hudson, Public Works Director, advised that a motor grader is needed at the Bunker Creek/Steel Field Road immediately or the State road crew must leave for the day.

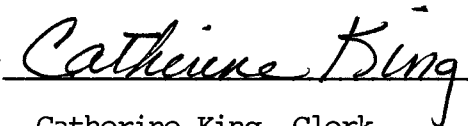
Chairman Pridgen adjourned the workshop.

APPROVED:



Sam Pridgen, Chairman

ATTEST:



Catherine King, Clerk