

WORKSHOP

JULY 27, 1998

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, July 27, 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.

Mr. Jerry Raibon, Superintendent of the Walton Correctional Institute, appeared before the Board and presented information relating to the Walton Work Camp inmate squads. Mr. Raibon stated that he is in favor of providing support to the community through worksquads and reported a savings of \$645,872,40 to the tax payers by providing inmates. The Commissioners voiced their appreciation for the excellent work WCI is providing.

Superintendent Raibon spoke on the private prison situation and inmates not being allowed to work outside the prisons. Superintendent Raibon stated that due to the excessive heat, he will allow the prisoners to drink Gatorade while working outside.

The Board approved to renew the three yearly contracts with Walton Correctional Institute (WCI) for inmate worksquads. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the purchase of eight (8) 800 mhz radios from Southern Linc Communications for WCI. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Harland Nelson, District 1 resident, appeared before the Board to request assistance in paving Phillips Drive. Mr. Bell stated that an MSBU was previously considered, however, it would be too costly for attorney fees for the short distance and number of residents on the road. The Board authorized for Attorney Miller and Mr. Miner, County Engineer, to work with the residents regarding the paving of Phillips Drive. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger stated that Ms. Jeanette Henderson, District 3 resident, is requesting the Landfill tipping fees be waived and allow her to dump debris she has from clearing some land. Commissioner Infinger will look into the possibility of Ms. Henderson obtaining a permit for burning the

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debris.

Ms. Crystal Steele, Walton County Health Department, addressed the Board regarding some complaints that the Commissioners have been receiving. Ms. Steele stated that they are working short handed but expect to have another certified inspector shortly. Ms. Steele presented an overview of various inspections required and the length of time for processing permits. Ms. Steele apologized, on behalf of the Health Department, for the rudeness of staff members and stated that it is due to working short handed and extended hours, but assured that it will get better.

Mr. David Gardener, resident of Sally Lane, informed the Board that Neal Wilson has once again placed dangerous speed bumps across Sally Lane and requested assistance in dealing with Mr. Wilson. Mr. Gardener stated that Mr. Wilson is verbally abusive to the neighbors. Sheriff McMillian was in attendance and stated that he will send a Deputy with the District 5 Road Foreman to look into the situation regarding the removal of a tree.

Sheriff McMillian appeared before the Board along with Charles Carlan and Finley Skocdopole of Carlan/Killiam Architectural Firm and presented conceptual drawings for additional space at the jail and administrative offices.

Mr. Skocdopole presented drawings for several different possibilities. One option presented was to expand the existing administration building 5000 square feet at a cost of \$371,000. Expansion to the kitchen area would include an additional 800 square foot costing \$110,000.

Another plan would be to completely add a second floor above the existing jail, adding an additional 165 inmate capacity, for a cost of \$3.5 million. This plan includes the cost for the additional space in the kitchen. Mr. Skocdopole stated that a third floor is not feasible due to the strength of the structure.

Several scenarios were presented for constructing a corridor from the jail to the court room for transporting inmates with an estimated cost of \$160,000.00.

Mr. Skocdopole presented conceptual drawings for a new Sheriff's sub station in South Walton with an estimated cost of \$700,000.00. The drawings include space for the ambulance service and could act as an emergency operations center. The building would be constructed to withstand a category 3 hurricane.

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Lengthy discussion was held regarding how to obtain the State owned property needed for the project. The Commissioners

discussed the possibility of condemning the property and will contact Attorney Miller for further review.

Sheriff McMillian requested the Commissioners establish a Walton County Airport Authority. The Commissioners agreed to request Attorney Miller to research the possibility of establishing an airport authority and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to take the construction projects under advisement and consider various sources of funding for the projects.

Mr. Skocdopole presented one other alternative drawing which included the construction of a building that would be constructed between the current courthouse and jail. Three floors could be added, possibly housing the various Constitutional Officers. The estimated cost presented for that project was \$3.28 million providing an additional 36,000 square feet.

Mr. Charles McMillan, Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor, presented conceptual drawings for an addition, East of the Section 8 Housing Building. The plans allowed for a two story building that would provide 18,000 square feet at an estimated cost of \$1.53 million not including the approximate cost of \$150,000 to purchase the property.

Mr. Matt Douglass, EMS Supervisor, informed the Commissioners that the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services will be performing their on-site survey August 11-13, 1998.

Mr. Douglass requested to place Rayburn Belgard in full-time employment status as a Paramedic. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to adopt the job description for EMS Shift Supervisor and approved to advertise for the three new positions according to policy. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Discussion was held regarding possibly locating an EMS substation in Mossy Head. Mr. Douglass stated that locating a substation in any area is based on the volume of calls in that particular area.

Mr. Bell stated that Mrs. Williams is searching the records to see if the County possibly owns any property in the Miramar area for the location of an EMS substation.

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The Board approved the purchase of eight (8) 800 mhz radios from Southern Linc Communications for EMS. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Jerry Fountain, Purchasing Agent, appeared before the Board and presented the following quotes for Library computer equipment. The Computer Guy of NWF, Inc., Crestview, Florida - \$12,582 and Advanced Copy of Northwest Florida, DeFuniak Springs, Florida - \$12,007. Mr. Fountain recommended awarding the quote to Advanced Copy in the amount of \$12,007 which will be paid with Library grant funds. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Fountain presented an additional cost of \$53,900 for the paving of Nance Road, and the overlaying of Peach Tree Street. The minutes of July 21, 1998-Special Meeting reflect a price of \$40,124 which was previously approved for the paving of Highway 1087 and Davidson Road. Both paving projects were previously approved, however, all costs were not available to present.

The Board approved the purchase of six (6) radios from T & L Communications, Andalusia, Alabama, low quote, in the amount of \$3,540 for the Darlington/Gaskin Volunteer Fire Department. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the purchase of a vibrator for the Bridge Crew from Allsouth Machinery in the amount of \$931.27 and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to waive the bid procedure and purchase two (2) 100 gallon paint tanks in the amount of \$6,802.26 and purchase a paint shaker for approximately \$800. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for District 5 to advertise for bids for the paving of the East unpaved portion of Nursery Road, Hewitt Road Connector, Sugar Drive, Bay Circle Drive, and Hardsvedt Road. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

The Board authorized Jerry Fountain to advertise for bids for an Earth Moving Pan for the Landfill. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Mr. Fountain to pursue various avenues to obtain the lowest cost for an incinerator for the Landfill. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

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Commissioner Infinger informed the Board that District 3 needs to purchase a truck to replace the one that was stolen. The Board approved to waive the bid procedure and allow Mr. Fountain to locate a pick-up truck for District 3. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to rent the RACO 250 for an additional month before making a decision whether or not to purchase it. The Board approved for Mr. Fountain to contact Mr. Wise, Hamm Compactors, Inc., and request to rent the RACO an additional month. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to advertise for bids for bridge repairs on Hub Presley Bridge, District 3, and Laird Road Bridge, District 4. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. John Simms, Christmas Reflections Committee, appeared before the Commissioners and stated that an application was submitted requesting the donations to the committee be tax deductible, however, their request was denied. Mr. Simms advised that the Committee has spoken with the City of DeFuniak Springs and would like for the City to take over the funds and the project in the Lakeyard if the Commissioners will approve of the County's \$20,000 loan being handled by the City. The Commissioners agreed as long as the City is made aware that the funds were provided only as a loan. Mr. Simms stated that the City has acknowledged that fact. Mr. Bell stated that he will contact Attorney Miller to see if the agreement with the Visitor's Bureau should be rescinded.

The Board approved the Expenditure Approval List as follows and placed this item on the consent agenda for payment.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------------|
| GENERAL FUND | | \$111,359.04 |
| COUNTY TRANSPORTATION TRUST | 95,968.16 | |
| FINE & FORFEITURE | 380,904.66 | |
| N.W. MOSQUITO CONTROL | 816.57 | |
| LIBRARY | 1,700.00 | |
| LIBRARY - STATE AID | 1,098.22 | |
| SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE | 310,693.20 | |
| MOSSY HEAD FIRE DEPT | 833.59 | |
| DARLINGTON FIRE DEPT | 1,112.00 | |
| LIBERTY FIRE DEPT | 581.71 | |
| RED BAY FIRE DEPT | 129.50 | |
| TDC AMSOUTH | | 22,558.40 |
| SHIP (PAID) | | 10,222.91 |
| GENERAL FUND (PAID) | | 59,952.00 |
| SECTION 8 (PAID) | 21.70 | |
| TOTAL | | \$ 997,951.66 |

Mrs. Lynda Robinson, Human Resource Officer, presented the employee evaluation for Kathy Warner, Permit Clerk, and stated that Ms. Warner has

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completed her probationary period

The Board approved to remove Ms. Warner from probation and place Kathy Warner in full-time employment status. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Lynda Robinson presented a pay/wage scale for two positions in the Soil Conservation Office. Mr. Terry Smith drafted the scale for the Commissioner's consideration. Mr. Smith requested to place Ruth Evans, Secretary, in pay grade 15 because of her 27 years experience, raising her from \$11.43 to \$14.50 per hour and requested to place Tommy Hinote in pay grade 12, raising him from \$11.03 to \$14.80 per hour.

Commissioner Porter stated that he has been receiving complaints from some County employees regarding the unfairness of the pay scale.

The Commissioners requested the pay scale for the Conservation Office be revised and asked Mr. Nelson Miner to review because they felt it was too high and tabled this for further review at a later date.

The Board approved to hire a temporary Library Clerk through September 30, 1998 at \$6.00 per hour. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Robinson stated that the Personnel Committee interviewed Michael Smith, Courthouse Maintenance employee, for the position of Electrician Apprentice and recommended the promotion. Mr. Charles McMillan requested to raise Michael's pay to \$9.00 per hour retroactive to July 4, 1998, and raise to \$9.40 per hour effective October 1, 1998. The Board approved and placed this item on the consent agenda.

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

Discussion was held regarding the purchase of property surrounding the Landfill. The Board asked Rusty Floyd, Landfill Supervisor, to work with Attorney Miller in obtaining the necessary information regarding available property and come back before the Board at a later date.

The Board approved for Billy Bearden, Building Inspector, to attend a workshop in Pensacola on September 15, 1998. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Ricky Rau to attend a workshop in Niceville on July 28, 1998, regarding Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to refund Gulf Pines Association \$450 for an appeal

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that was withdrawn. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Discussion was held regarding the policy on travel. The Commissioners agreed that any trip or meeting outside the County that does not require an overnight stay, shall be approved by the department head. Mr. Bell was asked to prepare the policy revision and present for approval during tomorrow's meeting.

Mr. Bell presented a request from Mr. Richard Whitaker, requesting the Commissioners adopt a resolution regarding desecration to the American Flag. The Commissioners agreed and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Mr. Nelson Miner, County Engineer, to submit a bid to the Tourist Development Council in the amount of \$800.00 for the purchase of a 1996 4X4 F10 Pick-up Truck for the Bridge Crew. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the purchase of the pile driver for the Bridge Crew, with a pay off cost of \$47,445. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger stated that he would like to add Bass Haven, Church Road, and Windham Way to the RACO 250 road priority list.

Mr. Miner stated that the paperwork required to purchase surplus equipment with the Defense Logistic Command has expired and requires updating. Mr. Miner will take care of the situation.

Mr. Miner stated that he was called to check into a drainage problem at the Lazy Days RV Park, which appears to be on private property, but will check into the situation further.

The Board approved to advertise for RFP's for the monitoring of the Landfill. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Discussion was held regarding maintenance of Carnation Road and McCewen Road near Anderson Fish Camp. The roads were maintained in the past, but has not been maintained for over five years. The Commissioners asked Mr. Miner to contact Attorney Miller regarding the proper procedure.

The Board approved the purchase of culverts and bands for District 2 from Gulf Atlantic Culvert in the amount of \$7,247.70 and approve payment of an invoice to Teel and Waters for the appraisal on the James McHenry Building in the amount of \$1,000. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Clerk of Courts to work with various County departments, Hilton Galloway, and conduct an independent audit regarding

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conflict counsel expenses. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for the Small County Technical Assistance Program to hold a workshop on August 24, 1998, at 1:00 p.m. regarding the Year 2000 Computer Needs. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented the appraisal on the James McHenry Building. The Commissioners agreed to discuss the appraisal during a special workshop that will be scheduled regarding new construction.

The Board approved travel for Mr. Miner, Commissioner Infinger, and Commissioner Butler, to attend the TEA-21 Workshop on August 13, 1998, in Tallahassee. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a petition regarding Don Graff Road, District 1. Commissioner Young stated that he and Mr. Bell visited the site and stated that there is a gate present, but no indication that the road will be closed. Commissioner Paul stated that Attorney William Green sent a letter to Mr. Graff stating that an injunction will be filed against him if the road is closed.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce requesting \$300 for the purpose of lobbying. The Commissioners stated that they would like a recommendation from the local Chamber before granting the request.

Mr. Bell presented an offer for the sale of the Continental Apparel Building in the amount of \$485,000. The Commissioners will consider the offer at the workshop.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from Captain Tom Pagels, Emergency Management Director, regarding a meeting with the State Division of Communications to consider possible solutions for emergency communications in Walton County.

The Board approved for Angie Biddle, Grants Coordinator, to attend the 1998 FRDAP Workshop in Tallahassee on July 30, 1998, and attend the 1999/20090 FRDAP Workshop in Tallahassee on August 5. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the contract with Business Records Corporation for Fiscal year 1998/99 for the special assessment system software/hardware lease-purchase in the amount of \$7,246.61. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented the interlocal agreement between Walton, Okaloosa

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and Santa Rosa Counties and the cities of Destin, Fort Walton Beach, Freeport, and Gulf Breeze, creating the Regional Utility Authority and stated that the Commissioners may wish to request assistance from the RUA in the dispute of the WRP Consumptive use permit. The Commissioners will contact Attorney Miller to see if it will benefit Walton County for RUA to intervene.

The Board approved to modify the consent agenda of July 14, 1998, to reflect that the work on the tennis court and basketball court will be performed at Bay Middle School not Van R. Butler Elementary School and include approval of prior minutes of June 16, June 22, June 23, June 30, July 1, July 7, and accept the SHIP Committee's recommendation regarding forgiveness of SHIP loans. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board confirmed approval for Ronnie Bell and Angie Biddle's attendance at a Workfare workshop on July 22, in Pensacola and approve for Angie Biddle and Shirl Williams to attend an Internet workshop on August 17, Panama City, at no charge. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved an interdepartmental budget amendment to transfer \$939 from the Workfare Program into the Administrative Supervisor's budget. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a budget amendment for the Commissioner's review. The amendment will be requested during tomorrow's regular meeting.

The Board approved to grant a fireworks display permit to Sunset Fireworks to be held at the Sandestin Beach Resorts on September 15. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented information to the Commissioners relating to the Commercial rate of \$3.39 per cubic yard for solid waste pick up. Mr. Bell quoted the following average figures that are paid monthly for Commercial pick-up to Environmental Waste \$75,000.00, Dayco \$18,593.00, DeFuniak Springs \$17,813.00, by commercial customers totaling \$1,216,872 per year. Discussion followed regarding the amount of revenues collected and amount expended. Commissioner Paul suggested relieving the businesses of the monthly charges with the revenues collected. The Commissioners agreed to verify figures and discuss this issue further at a later meeting.

The Board approved to waive the bid procedure and purchase a 3/4 ton 4X4 Ford Pick-up Truck in the amount of \$2,990 for District 3, from a dealer in Louisiana, to replace the truck that has been stolen. The truck will be purchased through Gary Smith Ford, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. This item

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will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for District 4 to remove old debris from Millard Gainey Road and fill a hole for a resident nearby. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger informed the Board that he buried four horses that died from Stranglers Disease. Commissioner Infinger voiced concerns because the disease is contagious to other animals. He has requested assistance from the Health Department to notify other animal owners whom live in the same area.

The Board agreed to adopt a resolution supporting a representative from Freeport to sit on the Ft. Walton Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Vice-Chairman Butler presented a copy of the County Road 30-A Transportation Study as prepared by Hall Planning & Engineering, Inc.

The Board approved a joint participation agreement with the Department of Transportation for advanced funding of the Holiday Road and U.S. Highway 98 intersection improvement in the amount of \$150,000. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Vice-Chairman Butler stated that the Economic Development Council is requesting, on behalf of Kevin Logan, the County pave an extension of the road leading into the Truss Company in Freeport. The Board agreed to look into this further.

The Board approved for District 5 to piggy-back Couch's price off of the Ellis Road and San Juan Avenue paving project and pave Campbell Road costing approximately \$25,000. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. (see correction to this item as approved on August 25, 1998, consent agenda #7, 8, & 9.)

Vice-Chairman Butler requested that a representative from Medicom appear before the Board to answer questions regarding the quality of cable service being provided. Mr. Bell placed them on the agenda for August 11.

The Board approved for District 5 to piggy-back District 3's computer bid to purchase computer equipment. Because of additional personnel in the office, additional computer equipment is necessary and this will allow the County to purchase the requested equipment at the lowest price. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to hold a workshop on Tuesday, August 4, 1998, at

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9:00 a.m. regarding possible construction expansion projects.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

William A. Young, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk