

WORKSHOP

AUGUST 10, 1998

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, August 10, 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.

Chairman Young 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 (EAL) for review along with a letter regarding overdrawn line items within different accounts. The Commissioners explained that intradepartmental transfers can be done without a budget amendment. The Commissioners reviewed and approved the expenditures as presented on the EAL and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Patsy Register and Ms. Melinda Watson, Humane Society, presented an updated activity report. Mrs. Register also presented the Animal Control Agent's renewal forms for approval. The Board agreed and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Ms. Connie Bailey, owner of Bailey's Restaurant, appeared before the Commissioners and once again explained her situation regarding her inability to obtain a liquor license because of a church that located near her establishment. Mr. Bell advised the Commissioners that they would need to amend the Alcohol Ordinance that will allow for a variance to be granted.

Commissioner Porter agreed to meet with Ms. Bailey, Reverend Toby Stone, Pastor of the South Walton Baptist Church, and Attorney Miller to attempt to settle the issue.

Mr. Les Hallman, South Walton Fire District, presented an alternate communications fire plan to the Board members and stated that Walton County needs a solution to the current communication problems. Mr. Hallman requested the Board's Cooperation and financial support to implement the plan which will cost \$163,000. Mr. Hallman stated that the alternate plan will benefit all of Walton County's residents. Mr. Hallman explained that the plan will allow Okaloosa County to dispatch the calls for the South Walton

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Fire Department, reducing the response time. Mr. Hallman stated that Okaloosa County will sign a Hold Harmless Agreement for Walton County.

Allen Ramey, Attorney for the South Walton Fire Board, spoke to the Commissioners regarding the efficiency of the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) system used by Okaloosa County.

Mr. Hallman explained the inefficiencies in Walton County's current system and the overload on the airways causing delays in dispatching in a timely manner. Mr. Hallman stated that he and other members have attempted to resolve problems with the 911 staff, to no avail.

Members from other fire districts also related problems that exist with the Walton County 911 Dispatchers.

Mr. Ron Prokop addressed the Commissioners regarding the communication breakdown at the Emergency Operations Center.

Mr. Hallman stated that the cost for the conversion would be \$63,500 for the first year, which includes necessary start up equipment, and \$33,000 each additional year and requested the Commissioner's assistance with the costs.

Chairman Young requested to postpone further discussion until a meeting can be set up between the parties involved.

Ms. Diane Hughes requested the Commissioner's consider the liability involved with the current dispatch situation due to delays in response time.

Mr. Vince Pasquerello also voiced concerns with the liability and possible litigation that could occur.

The Commissioner's set a workshop for September 8, 1998, at 3:00 p.m. to meet with all of the parties involved and to review the T & L Study recently conducted.

The Commissioners recessed briefly.

Mrs. Lynda Robinson, Human Resource Officer, appeared before the Commissioners and stated that Mrs. Bonnie Alford, Planning Secretary, has completed her six month probation and requested to place Mrs. Alford in permanent employment status and raise from \$8.20 to \$8.60 per hour. The Board agreed and placed this item on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to increase the retirement contribution paid to the Florida Retirement System from \$3.00 to \$5.00 for the retiree's health insurance subsidy. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Mrs. Robinson to review the current applications

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on file to hire a part-time temporary Library Clerk. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to advertise according to policy for an additional Assistant Foreman for District 1 and District 5. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Clyde Hodges, Board member for the Summerhouse Home Owners Association, appeared before the Commissioners to inform them that someone has constructed a fence, thereby closing a public access to the beach. Commissioner Butler stated that he will check into the situation.

Mr. Dan Bodiford, Clerk of Courts, appeared before the Commissioners regarding a letter from Attorney Miller dated August 4, 1998, and requested clarification on the information being requested. Mr. Bodiford stated that he will provide the information the Board needs, but it may take time depending on the information requested.

Mr. Bell stated that the Board is requesting up-to-date balances on reserve funds. Mr. Bodiford stated that Mr. Bell or someone should sit down together with him to clarify the information needed.

Mr. Bodiford stated that the information is available to the Budget Officer on the computer system which also shows expenditures for a 30 day accounting cycle and presented various reports printed from the computer and explained that a total of \$12 million dollars remain in the reserve funds. The June balance on the SBA investments total \$19,635,000 plus interest in the amount of \$93,000 for July. The Florida Local Government Investment Trust has a balance of \$5,130,000 plus interest in the amount of \$37,000 totaling \$5,167,000 for a grant total of \$36,908,000 for investments and reserves.

Mr. Bell asked for a breakdown of the General Fund Reserves by fund and cash in the bank with any restrictions placed on spending.

The Commissioners requested a breakdown of the reserves by fund and all cash in all bank accounts.

Commissioner Porter also requested a list of restrictions placed on the use of related reserve funds.

The Commissioners approved to accept the uniforms from the Clerk of Court's Office as surplus at a cost of \$24,226 and approved to write off \$2,081.00 for uniforms not accounted for. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. The Commissioners will review the proper disposal procedures.

Mr. Steve Toepper, Librarian, informed the Commissioners of a budget

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amendment request that will be presented in the amount of \$30,700 for the purchase of computers and a \$20,000 budget amendment from reserves for the purchase of a computer server.

Mr. Gary Spencer appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the possibility of providing a trolley service for CR 30-A and also discussed the possibility of interfacing with the Tourist Development Council at a later date. Mr. Spencer wanted assurance that the County will work together and not provide competition. The Board stated that they will discuss the issue with Attorney Miller because the opportunity to provide those services may have to be made available to anyone wishing to bid on the services.

Mr. Jerry Fountain, Purchasing Agent, presented the lease agreement for the RACO 250 for the third month. The Commissioners authorized Chairman Young's signature on the lease agreement with Hamm Compactors, Inc., Houston, Texas, for the RACO 250 for a third month and payment will be divided between District 2 and District 3. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Fountain reviewed bid #98-120, paving of Campbell Road, District 1, with Commissioner Paul. Mr. Paul approved of the low bid as previously approved by the Board.

Discussion was held regarding the bid for the excavator at the Landfill. Mr. Fountain stated that he was unable to locate any documentation regarding the resale value and parts availability for the Samsung. The Commissioners agreed to vote tomorrow on their decision.

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

Mr. Fountain requested to purchase four new vehicles for County Wide because of excessive mileage, costly repairs, and the overall conditions of the vehicles. Chairman Young requested Mr. Fountain provide a specific recommendation for the purchase.

The Board approved to advertise for bids for an imaging scanner for the North Walton Courthouse Annex. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved payment of approximately \$1,700 to Business World for the printing of the Land Development Code Books. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the appointment of J.D. Scott to serve on the Contractor's Board as Specialty Contractor. This item will be placed on the

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consent agenda.

The Board approved to adopt a resolution regarding the Participation of Small Counties Coalition at a cost of \$2,150. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to adopt a resolution amending \$30,700 unanticipated revenues from grant funds into the Library Machinery account. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mrs. Ingle, Budget Officer, stated that the proposed budget is set at \$37,296,612 and advised the Commissioners that they need to take action during tomorrow's meeting to adopt the proposed budget and milage rate.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from Mayor Marse, Freeport, regarding paving in the Freeport area. The Board requested Mr. Bell contact Mr. Marse for further information.

Mr. Bell advised that a public hearing has been set for September 8, 1998, at 5:00 p.m. to consider adopting the proposed rate resolution for Municipal Service Bond Units for the fire departments.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from Mrs. Angie Biddle who is requesting the Board consider creating a recreation committee that will allow the County to receive additional points from the FRDAP applications. The Board will review the request.

The Board approved payment to First Communications in the amount of \$701.25 for repeater repair cause by lightening damage. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger presented a letter resiging from his position as Board Member for the Economic Development Council. Mr. Infinger stated that he is resigning due to a lack of time to commit to the Board.

The Board approved to appoint Commissioner Paul to serve on the Economic Development Council Board in place of Commissioner Infinger. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised the Commissioners that Mrs. Dede Hinote has submitted her resignation for the position of Administrative Assistant in the Office of Management and Budget and requested to advertise to fill the vacancy.

The Board approved to advertise for the position and adopt a Resolution of Commendation for Dede Hinote for her years of service. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to advertise for bids for three (3) PC's for the OMB

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Office. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Tom Blackshear, County Planner, presented a draft copy of the Evaluation Appraisal Report and explained the contents.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of piggy-backing another bid and pave Sandspur Road, Ritzman Road, Perdue Road, and Ruckel Drive. The roads have been prepared and need to be paved before heavy rains cause damage. The Commissioners will review bids and seek approval.

The Board approved to piggy-back bid #97-114, (30-A), Couch Construction, in the amount of \$34.80 per ton and pave the Eastern Lake Bridge approaches. This item will be placed on the consent agenda. Commissioner Butler stated that this is the last portion of paving to be completed before reopening the bridge.

The Board approved to waive the bid procedure and allow Gulf Coast Traffic Barricade Division to install 300' of guard rail under FDOT guidelines at the Eastern Lake Bridge so the bridge can be reopened. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved to waive the bid procedure and allow Gum Creek Farms to overlay a portion of Mallot Bayou Road costing approximately \$2,000 upon recommendation of the County Engineer. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Butler stated that the well at Helen B. McCall Park is in need of being brought up to DEP requirements and will cost about \$10,000. Mr. Butler questioned the possibility of paying Regional Utilities the \$10,000 from recreational plat fees for the installation of water line to the park. The Board will refer the matter to Attorney Miller for his legal opinion.

The Board approved for District 5 to perform one-time emergency maintenance on Walton Beachside Lane and Hinton Drive. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved for Tressia Tousignant, District 5 Administrative Assistant, and Commissioner Butler to attend the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Conference October 21-23 1998, in Captiva, Florida. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board approved the maintenance agreement for the proposed traffic signal at the Holiday Road intersection. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

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Commissioner Butler advised that Attorney Miller sent a letter to the homeowners on South Monoco Street stating that they are responsible for paving, however, he has not received any response.

The Board approved an additional one year lease/purchase for the backhoe, District 3. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Infinger questioned problems concerning John Smith's Waterworks and the rate he is charging his customers and requested for Attorney Miller to meet with Mr. Smith in an attempt to resolve the problems.

Mr. Bell reported on the Florida Association Counties Trust Annual Conference. Mr. Bell stated that many topics were covered and was a very informative meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

APPROVED: _____

William A. Young, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Dan Bodiford, Clerk