

WORKSHOP

AUGUST 12, 1996

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, August 12, 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.

Rusty Floyd, Landfill Supervisor, advised the Board that Environmental Waste Systems and Dayco agree that if the Landfill remains open one extra hour daily, then it will not be necessary to haul to the Landfill after closing hours. The Board agreed to have the Landfill remain open from 6:00 A.M. until 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

The Board agreed to approve the request for an extension of the TDC development order for the One Seagrove Beach access until September 14, 1997. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Roger Roy, Assistant Chief of the Liberty Volunteer Fire Department, appeared before the Board to request the Board's assistance in purchasing a pumper fire truck. The approximate cost is \$20,014.88 for a 1964 Ford 850 Pumper Truck from an individual fire department on a seven year lease. Mr. Roy is requesting that the Board purchase the truck and Liberty Volunteer Fire Department reimburse the Board on a monthly basis. Mr. Roy stated that they intend to implement a MSBU next year. If the MSBU passes, the loan will be paid off in two years. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda. Attorney Miller is to prepare the lease agreement.

Sylvia Godwin appeared before the Board to request assistance in being added to the County's health insurance. Mrs. Godwin's husband, Robert Godwin, was a Walton County employee until his death. Mrs. Godwin currently has no health insurance. The Board will direct Attorney Miller to prepare a letter requesting that Mrs. Godwin be placed on the County's health insurance.

Allan Lege, representing Gulf Pines Subdivision, requested permission to install a gate at the entrance of the subdivision. The roads within the subdivision are public, county maintained roads, but the beach access is

private, only to the homeowners of the subdivision. Mr. Lege stated that the homeowners of the subdivision will purchase and maintain the gate. The Board agreed to confer with Attorney Miller with regard to installing the gate.

Mary Lou Reed, Executive Director of the Private Industry Council (PIC), appeared before the Board to advise that the PIC will be dissolving as of September 30, 1996 and will be forming a new corporation called Community Works. Mrs. Reed discussed the details of the duties of Community Works in administering the Walton County Workfare Program. Community Works will be teaming with Bridgeway Center, Inc. to administer the administrative function of Community Works. Daniel Cobbs, representing Bridgeway Center, Inc., addressed the Board regarding their corporation and the duties to be performed. Sue Ellen Colin spoke regarding the additional programs, such as the Workfare Program, which PIC handled to be continued by Community Works. Lengthy discussion followed.

Nell Simmons, representing the Florida State Gospel Singing Convention, appeared before the Board to request financial support from the Board as a whole and each Commissioner individually. The Board agreed to discuss this matter in the presence of the County Attorney.

The Board recessed briefly.

Bob Richberg, President of Okaloosa Walton Community College, and Barbara Jones, with the Chautauqua Neighborhood Center, appeared before the Board to present a proposal to continue the administration of the Walton County Workfare Program on October 1, 1996. Lengthy discussion followed. Mr. Richberg stated that OWCC would give the PIC employees top priority in employment. Commissioner Cuchens requested to advertise for RFPs. Ronnie Bell, County Administrator, stated there is not adequate time to send out for RFPs, the Board must decide who to administer the Workfare Program, Community Works or OWCC. The Board agreed to discuss this matter tomorrow.

Clayton Adkinson, Attorney for the City of Freeport, and Freeport Mayor Mickey Marsh, appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed agreement between the City of Freeport and Regional Utilities. Mr. Adkinson stated that a contract is required if Regional Utilities intends to install wells within the Freeport franchise area. Dewey Wilson, Executive Director of Regional Utilities, is scheduled on the agenda tomorrow to discuss providing future water to South Walton County.

Clayton Adkinson, Attorney for Healthmark, and Jon Hufstedler, representing Healthmark, appeared before the Board to request that the five

year lease on the hospital be extended until April 1, 1997. Mr. Adkinson discussed the status on the Certificate of Need which they have applied. Mr. Hufstedler is scheduled on the agenda tomorrow to discuss this matter further.

Kassy Keyes advised the Board that maps of the South Walton area are being prepared for the GIS Needs Assessment. Ms. Keyes requested that the Board designate their \$2500 to be placed toward further maps of the South Walton area. The funds to begin the North Walton area have not yet been obtained. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Tressia Tousignant presented a DSR update for the Alberto close-out: the total number of DSR's, 136; the total amount written for, \$1,293,564; the total amount claimed, \$1,664,792; and the total amount over, \$371,228. District 1 over doubled the amount claimed as to the amount written for. Due to the great amount of overage claimed, all DSR's from each district will need to be brought to one central location for the State and FEMA to inspect and audit each DSR. The Board agreed that the EOC be the central location.

Ms. Tousignant presented a resolution authorizing the County to proceed with the submittal of an application for State funds under provision of Hurricane Opal Poststorm Beach and Dune Recovery Strategic Management Plan to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems, for immediate dune stabilization, development and construction of a beach and dune restoration program. The Board agreed to adopt the resolution and place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from Stan Bates, President of Pilock Corporation, inviting the Board to a field test of his company's project on August 21, 1996, at 2:00 P.M. The field test will be held at Bayfield where they have a test project site.

Mr. Bell advised of a letter from Perry Jackson, Community Development Manager for the Rural Development Agency in Walton County, requesting that Shontale Johnson, DCT student be retained during the next school year under the DCT program. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised that Walton County received the artificial reef grant from DEP. The grant is to be used to purchase concrete modules to form a reef and totals \$20,000.

Mr. Bell presented a schedule for implementing the MSBU for the Mossy Head Fire Department. The Board agreed to advertise for a Public Hearing to be held on September 10, 1996, at 8:40 A.M. to consider adopting a resolution

approving the fire protection assessment rates for the 1996-97 fiscal year. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from the Freeport Booster Club regarding the concession stand that was constructed at Casey Park. The cost of constructing the concession stand exceeded the budgeted amount by \$2,289.13. The Freeport Booster Club is requesting that the Board of Commissioners fund the overage. A total of \$12,000 was received in donations for the project: \$6,000 from the City of Freeport, \$3,000 from the Board of Commissioners, and \$3,000 from the School Board. The Board agreed to pay approximately \$572.25, the same percentage as originally agreed upon, for the overage and have the City of Freeport and the School Board help pay for the overage as well. This item will be discussed during the regular meeting tomorrow.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Herbert Walls, DOT District 3 Acquisition Administrator, regarding three parcels of property adjacent to US Highway 331, North of DeFuniak Springs. Mr. Walls stated that the three properties have delinquent taxes on them and DOT is requesting that the Board waive the delinquent taxes only on the portion of the properties that DOT is trying to purchase from the property owners. The Board agreed to discuss the matter with the County Attorney.

Mr. Bell advised of a letter from Perry Jackson, Community Development Manager for the Rural Development Agency, regarding future renovations and repairs to the County Agriculture building where they lease space. The Board agreed to complete their portion of the renovations. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from Laura Firtel of Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. regarding a public meeting to be held on August 14, 1996 in Choctaw Beach to discuss the Action Plan for SR 20.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Mike Standley, City Manager of DeFuniak Springs, requesting that the Board either donate or sell to the City of DeFuniak Springs the IBM System 36 computer from the Supervisor of Elections Office. The Supervisor of Elections has an IBM System 36 computer which she was going to place in the County auction or donate to another County department. The Board discussed placing the computer at the County Shop.

Mr. Bell advised that the Walton Correctional Institute has requested an additional correctional position to be utilized at the Walton County Landfill to initiate a compost and C & D recycling program. The Board agreed

to approve the contract. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised of an announcement of the Small County Coalition Annual meeting to be held in Lake City on September 18, 1996. The Board agreed to adopt a resolution of participation for fiscal year 1996-97. The cost for participation in the Small County Coalition is \$2,150. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Kent Bass, Code Enforcement Officer, for an increase in salary. Mr. Bass has completed training and been certified as a Code Enforcement Officer. No action was taken on this matter.

Mr. Bell presented the estimated cost of \$28,350.00 to pave the remainder of Smith Road.

The Board agreed to look at the property requested by Brenda Chunn to be surplus.

Mr. Bell advised that four of the Mack Dump Trucks from Gulf Coast Truck and Equipment Company are ready to be delivered. The Board discussed financing of the trucks.

Mr. Bell advised of a letter from CSX Transportation regarding the County paying one half of the cost of asphalt to upgrade crossing intersections. The roads are located in Districts 2, 3, 4 and in the city limits of DeFuniak Springs. The Board agreed to discuss this item tomorrow.

Mr. Bell advised of a meeting with John Mooneyingham, Public Defender, and Charles McMillian, Maintenance Supervisor, regarding the working condition of the Public Defender's office. The approximate cost to upgrade the building is \$35,000. The Board discussed an alternative building. The Board agreed to allow Chairman Porter to negotiate with the owners of Walmart regarding purchasing the old building located on Highway 331.

Commissioner Wilkerson stated that he wanted to wait on awarding Bid 96-112, backhoe, at this time.

Commissioner Harris requested permission to pave from County Road 280 to the old Eucheeanna School site due to the school being used as a voting precinct this year. The Board agreed to waive the bid procedure and allow Okaloosa Asphalt to perform the work at \$35.12 per ton. This is the lowest bided price for asphalt. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Chairman Porter advised that Blue Ridge: The Item Company is looking at purchasing one of two parcels of property. One site does not require anything from the County, the other site requires approximately one half mile to be paved and possible accel and decel lanes.

Mrs. Sylvia Godwin, widow of Robert Godwin, former County employee, appeared before the Board to advise that she has made two health insurance payments for herself to COBRA. Since Mrs. Godwin was not added onto Mr. Godwin's family coverage before his death, Mrs. Godwin cannot be accepted now. The Board agreed to direct Attorney Miller to write a letter on Mrs. Godwin's behalf.

The Board agreed to allow Commissioner Harris to perform emergency maintenance on a road located off Lenton Road.

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

APPROVED: _____

Gordon Porter, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Catherine King, Clerk