

## SEPTEMBER 12, 1961 - REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners of Walton County, Florida met on Tuesday, September 12, 1961 in regular session at 9 a.m. with the following Commissioners present and participating: O.O. Thompson, Chairman, Hubert Bell, Kylea Laird, Coy Burgess and Marvin Rigdon together with Mr. S.M. Preacher, County Attorney, E. Leo Andrews, Clerk and Bernice K. Eaton, Deputy Clerk.

Bills for the month of August were presented to the Board for approval for payment. After examination and upon motion of Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Laird, the Board voted unanimously to pay from General Revenue Fund and Road and Bridge Fund, all bills submitted for payment from these two funds. In the case of the time and Forfeiture Fund, since the bank balance in this fund was over \$3,000 short of the amount needed to meet the August bills, the Board authorized the Clerk to write checks for one half of the amount of each voucher, pending the receipt of sufficient money to complete payment of these bills. The only exception to this is to be the refund to the Clerk of the Court for juror and witness fees paid from the County Juror and Witness fund, which is to be repaid in its entirety.

Since Mr. Forrest McDonald has completed the inventory of equipment owned by the County, and has rendered his bill, the Board authorized payment of this bill, also, from General Revenue fund. As Mr. McDonald was compelled to travel to each district in order to complete the inventory of road equipment, he also submitted a bill for mileage, which the Board voted unanimously he be paid for, on motion of Mr. Laird, seconded by Mr. Burgess. In regard to the rate of payment for mileage, Mr. Bell moved and Mr. Laird seconded that Mr. McDonald be paid seven cents a mile, passed unanimously.

The Clerk was authorized to issue warrants in the following amounts:

General Revenue Fund	\$ 9,421.36
Road and Bridge Fund	25,679.75
Mosquito Control Fund	612.00
Fine and Forfeiture Fund	5,130.56

Mrs. H. B. Bess, General Delivery, DeFuniak Springs, appeared before the Board to request some financial help for the release of her husband who is serving a sentence of 120 days for a misdemeanor. So far he has served 50 days. Commissioner Thompson explained the inability of the Board to provide welfare aid, even though the State Welfare Department is unable because of regulations, to place Mrs. Bess on their ADC rolls until Mr. Bees has been gone from home for three months. In accordance with an agreement Walton County has with Bay County, Mr. Bess is serving his sentence in Bay County, and Mr. Preacher, County attorney, said after a commitment is signed, Walton County has no jurisdiction in such cases. Mr. Andrews said he thought the Board should take a stand in regard to such matters.

Mr. Frank Spikes appeared before the Board asking for an easement across the L & N tracks so he may have Better access to his new home, the description is as follows:

2318 feet South of Milepost K-726

Upon motion by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Laird, the Board voted unanimously to get in touch with Mr. Moseley, L & N Agent here and request that action be taken on this request.

While Mr. Andrews was in attendance at the opening session of the Fall term of Circuit Court, the Board inquired as to the progress being made in the matter of the advertising of bills for fees submitted by county officials paid from the Fine and Forfeiture Fund. As no action had been reported, the Board requested that the Clerk be reminded that their action has not been rescinded and they would look to him to take the necessary action to have these bills advertised.

Mr. S.D. Ingram, DeFuniak Springs, Florida appeared before the Board in regard to the

old L & N freight building which is to be moved or demolished. He said he would like the location. There was much discussion of this project, the Board deciding to hold the matter over until after lunch, when a decision would be reached.

Mr. Luther Williams, DeFuniak Springs, appeared before the board asking about a road which he wishes built and referring to previous requests he had made about it. The Board, being familiar with the problem, consulted Mr. Preacher, who said there was nothing the Commissioners could do in this case; that the matter would be between the owners of the land which the road is now located and Mr. and Mrs. Williams. Mr. Burgess said he would ask the Board to go out and see the road.

Mr. Tom Fountain, owner of Reliable Abstract Company, presented to the Board a suggestion that something be done to improve the appearance of U.S. Highway #90 at Mossy Head to give a better picture of Walton County to visitors coming into the county for the first time. He suggested that a letter be written to Mr. Bob Sikes, U.S. Representative, asking him about the possibility of Eglin Air Force Base officials releasing land immediately south of the L & N R.R. tracks in Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, Twp. 3 North, Range 20 W; and in Sections 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, Twp. 3 North, Range 21 W. The Commissioners endorsed this idea and instructed the Clerk to write the following letter:

September 26, 1961

Honorable Bob Sikes, Member  
House of Representatives  
Congress of the United States  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Sikes:

Re: U. S. Highway 90 at Mossy Head, Florida

At the September 12, 1961 meeting of the Walton County Board of County Commissioners, a request was made by Mr. Tom Fountain, owner of the Reliable Abstract Company, DeFuniak Springs, in regard to improving the appearance of U. S. Highway 90 at Mossy Head, Florida so as to present a better picture of Walton County to visitors coming into the County.

The Board agreed there was merit in Mr. Fountain's request, and in his suggestion that the Board contact you. We respectfully ask your good help in having the United States government release the following described lands for public and private use, to wit:

All lands in Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, Twp. 3 North, range 20 West  
All lands in Sections 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, Twp. 3 North, Range 21 west  
All of this property is now in Eglin Field Reservation.

Your assistance in this matter will be sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely yours,  
/s/ O.O. Thompson, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners  
Walton County, Florida

The Board also mentioned the desirability of cooperating with the Development Authority and the DeFuniak Springs Chamber of Commerce, in this connection.

Mr. E. A. Cotton appeared before the Board and made a request that some work be done on the approaches to his house, saying he needs another large culvert thirty feet long. Mr. Bell said he was familiar with the situation, that the road had just been released to the county; and that it would be some time, on account of the small amount of funds remaining for the materials and work needed, before the requested work could be done, but that he would get to it as soon as possible.

Mr. Joel Cromartie requested the Board's permission to go before the local Development Authority in regard to the Juniper Area development, to determine if some Federal assistance might be arranged for on the Juniper Lake project. The board gave him the requested permission and said they thought it was a good idea. Everyone agreed however that the project should remain under County control.

The meeting here adjourned for lunch, reconvening at 1.30 p.m.

At this time Senator Galloway, of Galloway Insurance and Real Estate, made a report on the recent survey made at his suggestion, and presented a plan to group all insurance policies of the County into a Broad Form Insurance plan to be written by one insurance agent. A motion was made by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Laird, to approve the plan for Galloway Insurance Company of DeFuniak Springs, Florida to write all insurance policies at the time each existing county insurance policy expires; the insurance commissions on this plan to be divided among the five insurance firms in Walton County Florida, as follows:

Galloway insurance Company	2/6
First national Insurance Company	1/6
Harris Insurance company	1/6
Warren Insurance Company	1/6
Eaton Insurance Agency	1/6

Result of the vote was two "Yes", two "No", with Chairman O.O. Thompson not voting.

Present before the Board were Dr. L. R. Evans, County Health Doctor, Miss Ophelia Campbell, secretary, Health Department; Mrs. Velma Hesler, R.N. County Health Department, and Mr. A. D. Glass, County Sanitarian. They presented a petition for the admission of Mrs. Zelma Paul to W.T. Edwards Hospital, Tallahassee, Florida and requested the Board's approval. Approved on motion by: Seconded by: passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

The Commissioners authorized a Resolution regarding \$9,579.53 to be used as Walton County's share in the 1961-62 Aid to Indigent program, as follows:

#### Hospital service for the Indigent

Whereas, Chapter 401, Florida Statutes, creates a program, known as "Hospital Service for the Indigent" for the purpose of providing essential hospitalization for acutely ill or injured persons in this State who are medically indigent; and

Whereas, the 1963 Legislature appropriated Seven Million Dollars to the State Board of Health for the biennium 1961-63, for the administration of this program and for the purpose of allotting State funds to each County in proportion to its population to

augment county funds which may be provided for these purposes, and

Whereas, Section 401.08 (2) supra, authorizes each Board of County Commissioners, or other local official agency, of this State to budget for and provide County funds as may be necessary to match, on a formula basis, the County's part of the cost of this program; and,

Whereas, Section 401.06 (2) (a), supra, provides that the financial participation required of each County each year should be equal to at least one-half dollar for each inhabitant of said County according to the estimate of the population of said County for such year by the Bureau of Vital Statistics of this State, and

Whereas, the estimated population of Walton County, for the current year made by the Bureau of Vital Statistics in this State is 15,575 inhabitants; now therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Walton County, at a meeting of said board held on this 12th day of September, 1961, DeFuniak Springs, Florida, that effective October 1st, 1961, Walton County participate in said program desired to provide hospital services for the indigent.

That Walton County has budgeted the sum of \$8000 for said county-state hospital program as of October 1, 1961, but since there remains a balance of \$9579.53 in this account, the county's share is already available, said amount of \$9579.53 appears to be sufficient to operate the program for the current year and is more than 50 cents per capita for the population of Walton County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the balance of funds - \$9579.53 - shall remain to the credit of Walton County for its county indigent hospital program and no further funds will be deposited by said Walton County to this fund for the budget year October 1, 1961-October 1, 1962.

Be it further resolved that the Walton County Health Department is authorized and directed to administer this program for Walton County in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 401, supra, and

Be it further resolved, that a certified copy of this Resolution be submitted to the Walton County Medical Society, the County health Department and to the State Board of Health.

ATTEST:	/s/ O. O. Thompson Chairman Board of County Commissioners Walton County, Florida
/s/ E. Leo Andrews, Clerk Board of County Commissioners Clerk Circuit Court Walton County, Florida October 23, 1961	

Inspection reports of the Commissioners for the month of August, 1961 were filed as follows:

Commissioner Rigdon, District #1  
August 7 – Sandy Creek Bridge  
August 10 – Sandy Creek Road

Commissioner Thompson, District #2  
August 1 – Wood Road  
August 2 – Webster Lane Road

August 14 – Rock Hill Road  
August 4 – Burt McCall Road  
August 3 – Morrison Springs Road  
August 18 – Reedy Creek Road  
August 21 – Valley View Road  
August 22 – Red Bay Road  
August 23 – Eucheanna Road  
August 24 – Gillis Church Road  
August 25 – Argyle Road  
August 28 – Negro Church Road  
August 30 – Walton Bridge Road

Commissioner Bell District #3

August 4 – Old Norwood Road  
August 5 – Sandy Creek Wasteway Bridge  
August 7 – Sandy Creek Wasteway Bridge  
August 9 – Thad Bell Road  
August 11 – Murdock Ray Road  
August 12 – Jeff Crowder Road  
August 21 – Henry Nowling Road  
August 23 – Junior Owens Road  
August 25 – Howard Jones Road  
August 26 – H.S. Hall Road  
August 28 – Dewey Donaldson Road  
August 30 – Johnie Best Road  
August 31 – Henry Koerber Road

Commissioner Laird District #5

August 1 – Mud Road  
August 3 – Miller Road  
August 4 – McKinnie Road  
August 7 – Ferry Road  
August 8 – McDaniel Fish Camp Road  
August 12 – Jolly Bay Fish Camp Road  
August 14 – Adams Fish Camp Road  
August 15 – Bruce Road  
August 17 – Cowford Road  
August 19 – McGa hee Road  
August 22 – Smoke House Lake Road  
August 25 – Reddick Road  
August 29 – Howell Bluff Road

August 5 – Clear Springs Bridge  
August 7 – Davis Culvert  
August 10 – Lakewood Roads  
August 11 – Limestone Roads  
August 12 – Caney Creek Bridge  
August 15 – Eight Mile Creek Bridge  
August 18 – Gaskin Roads  
August 21 – Jackson Still Road  
August 24 – Darlington Roads  
August 25 – Alford Bridge  
August 31 – Paxton Roads

Commissioner Burgess District #4

August 1 – Alto Foreman Road  
August 2 – Pleasant Ridge Road  
August 3 – O.G. Adkisson Road & Bridge  
August 9 – Ottis Adkisson Road  
August 10 – Albert Cosson Road  
August 11 – Miles Morton Road  
August 14 – German Mill Road  
August 15 – Floyd Hobbs Road  
August 16 – Ben Thorn Road  
August 21 – Clyde Beard Road  
August 22 – Jack Webster Road  
August 23 – Babe Gorden Road & Bridges  
August 24 – Childrens Home Road

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

Approved:

O.O. Thompson, Chariman

Attest:

E. Leo Andrews, Clerk