

WORKSHOP

SEPTEMBER 23, 1996

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, met in a regular workshop on Monday, September 23, 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 Gerald Wilkerson, Commissioner Charles C. Harris, and Commissioner Rosier Cuchens Jr. The Board's Administrative Supervisor, Ronnie Bell, was also present.

Chairman Porter called the meeting to order.

Matt Douglas, Emergency Medical Service Supervisor, appeared before the Board to discuss implementing a Back Support Program for all County departments. The approximate cost for this program is as follows: Back Belts-\$17.98 each, Books-\$5.00 each, Video-\$65.00 each, Provider Charge-\$5.00, Posters \$11.00 per ten.

Albert Milton from GRIT Insurance Agency advised the Board that a safety program should help reduce injury claims resulting in lower premiums. Commissioner Harris stated he would like to see a mandatory safety program in place. The Board agreed to allow Mr. Douglass to proceed with the training classes and purchasing the necessary training items. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Douglas presented to the Board for approval and signature the Emergency Medical Services Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Douglas also presented to the Board for review the Walton County Emergency Medical Services job description for two shift supervisors.

Mr. Douglas submitted the 1996-1997 Emergency Medical Services County Award Grant Application in the amount of \$17,055.21. These monies will be used for improvement and expansion of the County Emergency Medical Services system. Equipment to be purchased are: Autovent 2000 Ventilator, \$5,400.00, Auxiliary power supply, \$2,800.00, and Lifepak monitor/defibrillator, \$8,995.00, for a total cost of \$17,195.00. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to adopt a resolution applying for the Emergency Medical Services County Award Grant. This item will be placed on the consent

agenda.

The Board agreed to advertise for a public hearing to be held on October 14, 1996, at 5:30 P.M., at the Bay Elementary School, to consider adopting an ordinance exempting the County ad valorem taxes for Blue Ridge: The Item Company as recommended by Tom Powell and the Economic Development Council. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

A.A.A. Truss' request for an ad valorem tax exempt is scheduled for Public Hearing on October 8, 1996 at 8:40 A.M.

Albert Milton, Chris Williams and Greg Becker, representing GRIT/RIS Corporation, presented the County's Workman's Compensation Insurance renewal packet for review. The current premium is \$379,249.00, down \$15,000.00 from last year. Walton County receives credits from Managed Care at 10%, Safety Program at 2%, and a Drug Free Workplace Program at 5%. To have continued credits in Safety and Drug Free Workplace categories, the County must have Safety Programs each month along with a Drug Free Workplace program. The Board discussed adopting a Drug Free Workplace Program at this time and to perform random drug testing at a later date. Chris Williams suggested Pre-employment and Post Accident testing. The Board agreed to allow the Chairman to sign the Drug Free Workplace Policy. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Ronnie Bell, County Administrator, advised that he received a workman's compensation insurance proposal from the Florida League of Cities for review by the Board.

Laverne Camacho and Van Ness Butler approached the Board with a request to utilize the impact fees from High Pointe Development to help fund the South Walton Fire Department and to help purchase equipment or pay off existing loans the fire department has from past purchases. Mrs. Camacho also stated that there are four fire stations in South Walton of which only two are maned, those being the Miramar and Seagrove Fire Stations which are maned with two men at each station. Commissioner Cuchens requested a print out of the South Walton Fire Departments expenditures. The Board agreed to talk with Attorney Miller to get a legal opinion on this matter.

The Board recessed briefly.

Chairman Porter submitted an invoice in the amount of \$14,201.65 from Okaloosa Asphalt for asphalt to pave the landfill recycling facility. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Bobby Ammons, Assistant Public Works Director, reported to the Board that the Van Ness Butler School may need more dirt than anticipated. The Board had previously agreed to 8,500 yards and as of this time, 7,500 yards have been hauled. The Board agreed to have a representative from the School Board to approach them if more dirt is needed.

Mr. Ammons also reported that the crane rental used at the recycling building, costing \$1,600.00 per week, may be needed for three weeks or more and that this could go over the \$5,000.00 limit. The Board approved the use of crane. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell and Mr. Ammons discussed the Rittman Restoration project. Mr. Bell stated that the Department of Environmental Protection requires help from Walton County in the form of manpower and equipment. The Board agreed to assist in the Ecosystem Management Project as needed. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, appeared before the Board to state that the Performance Bond has been received and a permit approved for White Construction Company.

Mrs. Williams also reported that the storm water system was never put in on the east side of One Seagrove Place in the Cliffs of Seagrove Project. She explained that the builder filed bankruptcy and now the bank owns the property; therefore, the bank is responsible for putting in the access storm water system. The Board agreed to direct Attorney Miller to prepare a letter to the bank and their attorney informing them of this obligation.

Mrs. Williams suggested that in the future the County should require a performance bond in lieu of a letter of credit for new building projects.

Mrs. Williams stated that Garrett Horn requested that the County take a prescriptive easement on South Gulf Drive as there is a question as to the correct property line where Mr. Tullis is building his house.

Mrs. Williams advised the Board that Jeff Jansen, developer of the Gulf View Boardwalk Project, has not paid the required impact fees nor has he built the boardwalk as agreed. The Board agreed to advise Mr. Jansen to move forward with the original agreement to build the boardwalk or pay the impact fees.

Mr. Ronnie Bell presented the results from the public auction held on Lot 18, Block 124, Town of Santa Rosa. Brenda Chunn was the only bidder out of several people present. The bid was in the amount of \$200.00. The

property is very wet and can only be used for mitigated purposes.

Mr. Bell advised of a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Hughes of Corinth, Mississippi, regarding the condition of their home in the Gulf Pines Subdivision and giving them thirty days to remove the debris on their property. Mr. Bell stated that it has been over thirty days and no response has been received from Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Bell presented a request he received from Mr. Jackie Floyd regarding his interest in the demolition of two houses owned by the County on Sloss Avenue. Mr Floyd would like to salvage the lumber from these two houses for his personal use.

Mr. Bell stated that Ms. Opal Davidson of WAKJ FM radio located in DeFuniak Springs has requested that he conduct a weekly interview to inform the public of the current events in Walton County. The Board agreed that the weekly interview is a good idea and Mr. Bell stated he would participate.

Mr. Bell presented to the Board a request from the Mossy Head Fire Department to purchase two Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units for a total cost of \$2,230.00. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell presented the contract with HRS and OWCC for the Workfare Program.

Martha Ingle, Chief Deputy Clerk, notified the Board of a request from Mr. Earnest Howell, District 5 employee, to combine his past employment time with his present employment time, for employee benefits. This item was placed on the consent agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Gordon Porter, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Catherine King, Clerk