

OCTOBER 7, 1996

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular Workshop on Monday, October 7, 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.

Mike Barker, Public Safety Director, presented an update on Tropical Storm Josephine. The latest coordinates directed the storm to land east of Apalachicola to Tampa Bay. Mr. Barker advised of a meeting at 11:00 A.M. today with the Hurricane Center.

Dewey Wilson, President of Florida Community Services Corp., presented a resolution stating that the Emerald Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant is no longer in use or permitted. The Board agreed to adopt a resolution declaring the property housing the Emerald Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant as surplus land and that the land be issued for bid with the exception of one half acre being retained for future use. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, reminded the Board of a Workshop to be held on October 24, 1996, at 6:00 P.M., to discuss the proposed Comprehensive Plan.

Mrs. Williams presented a letter from Attorney F.B. Estergren regarding South Gulf Drive and Bob Tullis' building permit. This item is scheduled on the agenda for tomorrow.

Mrs. Williams advised the Board that Jeff Jansen, developer of Gulf Views, is scheduled on the agenda tomorrow to discuss the recreational impact fee and the status of the boardwalk. Mr. Jansen has the engineering and DEP permits and feels that should satisfy the 5% recreational impact fee and credit any future developments.

The Board agreed to direct Attorney Miller to proceed with filing an injunction against White Construction Company, located near Paxton, to have the stored gravel/limerock removed due to the lack of a permit. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

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Ronnie Bell, County Administrator, requested that the salary placed in the Public Safety budget to pay Kent Bass, former Code Enforcement Officer, be utilized to pay Jack Rhodes and that the vehicle used by Mr. Bass now be utilized by Mr. Rhodes. Mr. Bell further requested that Mr. Rhodes be designated as a Code Enforcement Officer and be under direct supervision of Shirl Williams, Assistant Administrative Supervisor. The Board agreed to discuss this matter further.

Charles McMillian, Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor, advised the Board of damage to the Courthouse Annex wall caused by an oncoming vehicle. Mr. McMillian discussed replacing the wall with storefront glass with metal siding. The Board agreed.

Mr. McMillian advised the Board that the full-time cleaning lady, Julie Floyd, resigned and now the position is vacant. The Board agreed to allow Mr. McMillian to hire a part-time cleaning person until the position can be filled permanently. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Mr. McMillian advised the Board of severe leaking problems on the Courthouse building. The Board agreed to allow Mr. McMillian to hire a contract labor person to help Gary Cook in repairing the Courthouse building. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Patsy Register, representing the Walton County Humane Society, presented an update on the rabies situation caused by a rabid cat on Rockhill Road. Ms. Register suggested that the Board amend the current Animal Control Ordinance to include Florida Statute 828.30 regarding rabies vaccination of dogs and cats stating that all dogs and cats 4 months of age or older must be vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian against rabies with a United States Government approved vaccine. Ms. Register also suggested to include the violation of this section as a civil infraction, punishable as provided in section 828.27(2) and that the maximum civil penalty not to exceed \$500. The Board advised that a public hearing is scheduled for October 14, 1996, at 6:00 P.M. to consider amending the Animal Control Ordinance.

Greg Wise, President of Benefit Solution, Inc. (BSI), appeared before the Board to discuss the health insurance proposals submitted. Mr. Wise reported that four insurance carriers responded to the RFP. Mr. Wise stated that based on the findings, BSI recommends the following actions to the Board. Blue Cross/Blue Shield was the lowest bidder in terms of monetary outlay for the County. Their initial proposed rates reflected a 14.35% increase above the current rates. BC/BS did allow the County to forego the

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scheduled October 1, 1996 adjustment for a month; thus, based on current enrollment, this equates to \$137,199 annual increase. After discussion with the underwriters, they were successful in achieving a reduction of \$50,499 (9% increase) by demonstrating an alternate way of approaching the renewal. The Board agreed with the recommendation and placed this item on the consent agenda.

Captain R.M. Tart, representing the Florida Department of Transportation, appeared before the Board to offer support in enforcing weight limits on county roads and bridges.

Cal Callahan, representing Merlin "CAL" Callahan Associates, appeared before the Board to present samples of items relating to erosion control.

Freddy Bishop, District 5 Road Foreman, advised the Board that he was under contract with the County in 1982 to operate the Ferry. After the contract ended, Mr. Bishop worked as contract labor and had insurance benefits, but retirement was not paid on him by the County. Mr. Bishop requested that the two years of retirement which was not paid on him by the County be paid. The Board took the request under advisement.

Darlene Crissmann appeared before the Board to present information concerning Quicksilver Custom Aluminum Fabrication Shop which she is requesting a determination of suitability located in Santa Rosa Beach. The Board directed Mrs. Crissmann to meet with the Planning and Zoning Department to allow them to determine suitability before going before the Planning Commission.

Greg Preble, representing Preble-Rish Engineering Firm, appeared before the Board to discuss the bridge located on Old Jolly Bay Road. Commissioner Harris stated that the pile driving was to be advertised for bids, but did not succeed. The bridge is sinking and is in great need of emergency repair. The school bus drivers refuse to cross the bridge; thus, causing a hardship. Mr. Preble received three quotes by fax to repair the bridge. The lowest quote was from Southeastern Mechanical Contractors in the amount of \$46,204.49. Ronnie Hudson, Public Works Director, stated that he may can obtain a quote from F & W Construction Company. The Board agreed to proceed with obtaining additional quotes to repair the bridge.

Mr. Bell advised of a request by Paramount Pictures for the county to furnish an ambulance to Seaside for one or two days during the filming of the Truman Show. The cost to Paramount will be \$225 per day. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

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Mr. Bell advised of a request from the Darlington Fire Department that they be allowed to expend \$5,028.92 of their 1995-96 budget to pay the remainder owned on a fire truck for their department. The Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda.

Mr. Bell advised that the Argyle Fire Department is requesting that the Board adopt a resolution requesting that CSX Railroad keep open the small railroad crossing in Argyle. It is now the understanding that CSX Railroad will not close any crossings without the Board's approval. The Board agreed not to close the small crossing in Argyle.

Mr. Bell advised of a request from Robert Estes, Chairman of the Walton County Interagency Council, that the Board appoint three members to the Interagency Council. The Board agreed to review a list of candidates.

The Board agreed to renew the Certificate of Need for Med Transport as requested by Annette Howell. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Harris advised of a letter from Freeport Mayor Mickey Marse requesting that the County assist in maintaining the roads located in the Mallard Creek Subdivision, which is an unrecorded subdivision located off Old Jolly Bay Road. Mayor Marse stated in his letter that the property was annexed into the City of Freeport in June of 1991 as the property was being subdivided. The roads are currently owned by a homeowners association which does not have the organization or funds to maintain the roads. Commissioner Harris stated that he did not have a problem with maintaining the roads. The Board agreed to discuss this matter with Attorney Miller.

Elizabeth Shortridge, resident of South Gulf Shore Drive, expressed her appreciation to the Board with regard to exploring a possible solution to the road encroachment problem on South Gulf Shore Drive at the last Commission Meeting.

The Board agreed to adopt a resolution/letter of support to CSX Railroad in keeping all railroad crossings open in Walton County. This item will be placed on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Harris presented a right-of-entry agreement from Dr. Gilbert Richardson to repair his driveway due to a drainage problem caused by a county road.

Mr. Hudson advised of a letter from F&W Construction Company stating that they are in need of approximately 500 cubic yards of a sand clay material to mix with the subgrade on a Walton County project located south of Freeport. F&W would like to trade limerock base material that came from

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White Construction's Campbellation, FL pit for enough of the County's sand clay to complete the subgrade. The Board agreed to the request.

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

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

Gordon Porter, Chairman

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

Catherine King, Clerk