

REGULAR WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 30, 1989

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, met in a regular workshop session on Monday, October 30, 1989, at 8:00 A.M., in the Commissioner's Boardroom in the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board Members were present: Chairman Sam Pridgen, Commissioner Robert G. Fleet, and Commissioner Donald D. Brown. Vice-Chairman W.F. Miles and Commissioner Wilson Holley were absent due to prior commitments. The County's Administrative Supervisor, Mr. Ronnie E. Bell, was also present.

Mr. Bell advised the Board of two resolutions for the Board's adoption regarding Boating Improvement monies. The funds would be applied toward improvements at Mullet Creek Park and Portland Park.

Mr. Bell further advised that the County has received approximately \$83,800.00 in a recycling grant. However, the money must be spent or obligated by December 31, 1989.

Mr. Bell reminded the Board of the groundbreaking ceremony today at 1:00 P.M. at the site for the Walton Correctional Facility.

The agreement between the County and the City of DeFuniak Springs regarding mosquito control spraying must be executed. The City will pay \$10,500.00 for the period of October 10, 1989 through October 10, 1990.

Mr. Bell advised that he has prepared a resolution requesting that the elected State officials representing Walton County not consider the transfer of minor arterial roads to the Counties during the November Special Session.

Mr. Ronnie Hudson, Public Works Director, advised that he has obtained a low price of \$9,600.00 for a 1600' long, 8' high chain-link fence to be erected around the County Landfill complex. There would also be three strands of barbed wire around the complex at the top of the chain-link fence and four 14' gates closing two entrances. Commissioner Brown stated that the purchase of a fence surrounding the Landfill will substantially reduce the payroll for nightwatchmen. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of the nightwatchmen at the correctional facility observing the night activities at the

Landfill. Chairman Pridgen suggested postponing the purchase of a fence until it is determined what the correctional facility will be doing.

Commissioner Brown asked the other Board Members to review the revised proposal from Buck Consultants. The consulting firm will evaluate the current health insurance carrier for the County as well as formulate an advertisement for receiving proposals from various other health insurance companies.

Commissioner Brown advised of a multi-purpose piece of equipment called the "bionic blade." It can aid in paving, grading, working road shoulders, etc. He is considering purchasing the piece of equipment at approximately \$3,000.00.

Commissioner Fleet advised that the Municipal Code Corporation has sent information regarding their system of codifying all County Ordinances. The Board agreed that more information should be acquired and this system of codifying should be pursued.

Commissioner Fleet advised that the recently constructed bike path into Grayton Beach is already crumbling in several places. He further advised that his District cannot pave the road adjacent to the bike path until that situation is resolved. Discussion followed regarding the need for a contract between the County and the individual/company performing the work - a project bond.

Commissioner Fleet stated that he received notice from the State office of the Association for Retarded Citizens advising that the gum machines located in the Courthouse purporting to benefit the local Association for Retarded Citizens are not authorized.

Commissioner Fleet advised that the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) five-year work program was discussed and reviewed at the recent Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting. He further advised that Walton County does not figure high in the program. A Public Hearing will be held on the issue in Panama City on November 15, 1989.

Chairman Pridgen stated that the Public Hearing on Highway 2 has been postponed. Mr. George R. Miller, County Attorney, advised that, to him, the postponement indicates that DOT has resumed maintenance of the highway.

Commissioner Fleet reminded the Board of the United Way campaign.

Mrs. Martha Ingle, Deputy Clerk, reviewed the letters to the Board on the agenda for the regular session on Tuesday, October 31, 1989.

Brief discussion followed regarding the recent requirement of laying pipe and cable a minimum of 30 inches underground.

Mrs. Ingle advised that Mr. Tom Foss, Computer Needs Consultant, will be arriving at 9:30 A.M. today.

Commissioner Brown advised that he conferred with a representative of the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD) regarding the dams in Teelinville Subdivision. The representative advised that if the NWFWMD must repair the dams, they will do so. However, the District will bring suit against the County in the amount of the cost of repairs. Commissioner Brown further advised that, it is his understanding that the County previously accepted the road surfaces only, excluding the actual dams. It is Attorney Miller's opinion, however, that such a position would not hold up in a court of law. Discussion continued regarding the dilemma of the County regarding the Teelinville dams. The Board recommended pursuing an alternative access into the subdivision from 19th Street.

Mr. Hudson advised that the two equipment operators at the Landfill are very capable, yet are making less than the lowest paid equipment operator in the Road and Bridge payroll. The lowest paid equipment operator in the Road and Bridge payroll receives \$7.60 per hour. The two Landfill equipment operators receive \$7.31 per hour and \$7.15 per hour. Mr. Hudson and Mr. Clinton Ward, Landfill Supervisor, are requesting that the two Landfill equipment operator's pay be raised to \$7.60 per hour. The Board was agreeable.

Mr. Hudson advised that the correctional facility will be closing the north entrance to the County Landfill as the road runs across the prison's property. Because of this, the County must reconstruct that portion of the north Landfill entrance. The proposed area of road construction runs through wetlands which, according to the Department of Environmental Regulations (DER), will cost the County approximately \$10,000.00 in permitting fees, etc. Mr. Hudson further advised that the prison will be constructing a retention pond and dam in the vicinity of

where the County Landfill road currently exists. Mr. Hudson intends to request that the County be allowed to construct its road over the dam. If that is not allowed then Mr. Hudson will request that the County abandon the north entrance to the Landfill and use only the south entrance as an access to the Landfill. Discussion followed regarding various alternatives to the foregoing situation.

Mr. Bell advised that Mr. Thomas C. Kelley is on the agenda for the October 31, 1989 Board Meeting to request the use of the ferry barge to remove pilings from Choctawhatchee Bay. The Board concurred that the County has no responsibility for those pilings and directed Mr. Bell to notify Mr. Kelly of such.

Chairman Pridgen adjourned the workshop.

APPROVED: Sam Pridgen
Sam Pridgen, Chairman

ATTEST: Catherine King
Catherine King, Clerk