

DECEMBER 30, 1996

WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, met in a Workshop on December 30, 1996 at 8:30 A.M.

The following Board members were present: Chairman William A. Young, Commissioner Joel Paul, Jr., Commissioner Van Ness Butler, Jr., Commissioner Randall Infinger, and Commissioner Gordon Porter. Also present was Mr. Ronnie Bell, Administrative Supervisor.

Chairman Young called the meeting to order.

Mr. Ron Burgess, Transportation Director for Walton County Schools, appeared before the Board to publicly thank the Commissioners for assisting them in the maintenance of roads that are used by the school buses.

Mrs. Tammy Beaver came before the Board requesting the removal of a dog in her neighborhood. The dog is terrorizing her, her children, and other people of the Portland Community. Mrs. Beaver requested that the Board enforce the animal control Ordinance No. 93-10, in order to be protected from the dog.

Chairman Young recommended to the Board that a workshop be scheduled to discuss the animal control issue (Ordinance 93-10). After further discussion, the Board agreed to discuss establishing a time for the workshop at a later meeting.

Mr. Michael Standley, City Manager of DeFuniak Springs, appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed spray field at Juniper Lake. Mr. Mark Schaffer, a representative of Smith & Gillespie Engineers, explained to the Board the spraying concept that is planned. Mr. Schaffer also presented a map of the groundwater monitoring well.

Commissioner Paul inquired as to how a site is selected and Mr. Standley explained that one of the things the City looks for is land that is close to the City.

Chairman Young suggested to the Board that no action be taken today concerning the spray field and to set the issue for a public hearing so that the Department of Environmental Protection and other pertinent governmental agencies could be present.

Mr. Chet Bush, resident of Juniper Lake, appeared before the Board in opposition to the spray field. Mr. Bush stated that the City's permitting procedure is flawed and requested that the permit be rescinded. Mr. Bush

also stated that the site was unsuitable, therefore, the development order should be denied. Mr. Bush also read to the Board a letter that he has submitted to the Office of the General Council in Tallahassee. Mr. Bush informed the Board that he suggested to Representative Scarborough to contact the Environmental Protection Agency requesting that a field representative be sent to Lake Juniper to evaluate the situation.

Chairman Young stated that the spray field issue will be scheduled for a public hearing and invite the Department of Environmental Protection and other pertinent agencies to be at the hearing.

Mrs. Alice Sheltz and Mrs. Susan Wood, both residents of Lake Juniper, appeared before the Board in opposition to the site of the spray field.

The Board recessed briefly.

Mr. Jim Parrish, Project Manager for the Florida Counties Foundation, appeared before the Board to introduce himself and to discuss the Small County Technical Assistance Program.

Chairman Young requested that Mr. Parrish prepare a detailed job description and a uniform pay schedule, which would cover various positions in the Walton County System.

Mr. Parrish informed the Board that he would work with the County in preparing a uniform pay schedule.

Commissioner Butler requested that the Board review organizational charts of other various counties of a comparable size before preparing Walton County's chart.

Mr. Jim Rester and Ms. Mary Lou Reed of the Jobs and Education Partnership Board appeared before the Commission to discuss the activities of the JEP. Mr. Rester also introduced the JEP Board to the Commission.

Ms. Marge Crawford also appeared before the Board to inform them that JEP is the grant recipient for the restoration of the beach program. Ms. Crawford stated that time was running out for the County to start a plan for beach restoration. She also stated that she had been told that if a plan was not started soon to utilize the funds that the monies for Walton County would be given to neighboring counties since their program for beach restoration was already implemented.

The Board expressed concerns about who is overseeing the JEP Board with reference to JTPA funds and resources. Mr Tom Powell, a member of the JEP Board, explained different activities of JEP.

Ms. Barbara Jones, Director of Okaloosa-Walton Community College

Chautaugua Neighborhood Center, appeared before the Board requesting that JEP rotate their meetings between Okaloosa and Walton Counties.

The Board recessed for lunch.

Dr. W.D. Permenter appeared before the Board offering as a gift to the County a 30 to 35 acre Clay Pit located in Mossy Head. In exchange for the property, Dr. Permenter requested that the deed to the property be recorded before the end of the year for tax purposes.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to accept the deed of the Clay Pit from Dr. Permenter.

Mr. Mike Barker, Director of Public Safety, appeared before the Board to give an overview of the DSR's relating to Tropical Storm Alberto, Hurricane Erin, and Hurricane Opal. Mr. Barker also presented an organizational chart of 911, which had been requested by the Board at a prior meeting.

Commissioner Butler informed the Board that Tressia Tousignant has worked on DSR's for several districts and her salary has been paid out of District 5. Commissioner Butler asked for Ms. Tousignant to explain how she was paid.

Ms. Tressia Tousignant informed the Board that at least half of her salary should be funded through administrative monies. The County has received well over \$100,000.00 over and above any DSR costs. Administrative money is to be used for the salary of employees doing the paperwork. Ms. Tousignant also stated that in the past 2 years that is basically what her job has been; therefore, her salary can and should at least be partially funded with this money and there is no reason why it shouldn't be done.

Commissioner Butler requested that at least half of Ms. Tousignant's salary be funded out of that administrative money.

Mr. Matt Douglass, Director of Emergency Medical Services, appeared before the Board to give an overview of the services of EMS in Walton County.

Mr. Douglass expressed the need to upgrade the Basic Life Support at the Paxton location to Advanced Life Support.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to upgrade the Paxton Ambulance Service to Advanced Life Support.

Chairman Young inquired as to how the fees are determined, such as what the fees would be for someone with special needs. Mr. Douglass relayed that the fees are determined by the David M. Griffith Company, which was implemented by the previous Board.

Mr. Douglass also relayed to the Board that the billing is handled by Howell Services. The contract with Howell Services began approximately nine years ago and it was renewed on September 29, 1992 for five years.

Chairman Young informed the Board that in the policy adopted September 25, 1995 that non-emergency transports occurring in Walton County shall be the responsibility of Med-Transport. Medical Facilities within the County shall contact them when that facility needs a non-emergency transport. If the call is received at the 911 office requesting a non-emergency transfer the caller will be given the phone number to Med-Transport.

Chairman Young stated that he felt the Board needed to study the ambulance issue further.

Ms. Shirl Williams informed the Board that she had spoken with Mr. Cordell Harrison and had been able to work out an agreement with Mr. Harrison regarding Lots 13 and 14 of Quail Ridge Estates, Lake Addition. Ms. Williams submitted the agreement for the Board to review.

The Board received the proposed Vesting Ordinance that is scheduled for a public hearing on December 31, 1996.

The current Department of Environmental Protection landfill permit will expire in January of 1997. Preble-Rish is completing the permit application and the permit fee for the landfill will cost \$15,000.00.

The Board placed on the consent agenda to approve the landfill application fee to the Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$15,000.00.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to execute the lease agreement on the Emergency Operation Center.

The Board was given two resolutions regarding the imposition of special assessments (MSBU) for fire services and road paving and ancillary drainage that is scheduled for a public hearing on December 31, 1996. Mr. Bell informed the Board that the adoption of these resolutions does not require the Board to move forward with the MSBU's. It only allows the Board the opportunity if they wish to do so.

The Board received a letter and drawing for review sent by Michael Standley, DeFuniak Springs City Manager, of the site location on Gene Hurley Road of the proposed Recreation Complex. Mr. Standley requested the Board's input concerning the drawing and assistance with the complex.

Mr. Ronnie Bell informed the Board that the agreement with Walton County EDC that was approved in 1990, expired on July 1995. The agreement

was for 5 years.

Mr. Bell furnished to the Board a copy of a letter they had received from Secretary James Murley of the Department of Community Affairs requesting to meet with the Board in a workshop to discuss planning issues. Mr. Bell stated that he would contact Secretary Murley and arrange for Secretary Murley to be at the workshop on January 8, 1997.

Commissioner Porter advised the Board that he would not be at the meeting next week because of a prior commitment in August. He also stated that if the Board has their meetings on Thursday nights that they will miss the meeting of the Florida Association of Counties.

Mr. Ronnie Bell presented the Board with a job description of the Walton County EMS shift supervisor. Mr. Bell stated that the job description was the same that Mr. Douglass had presented to the Board several months prior. Commissioner Porter advised the Board that the prior Board just did not take any action concerning the job description.

Chairman Young recommended to place the item on the consent agenda.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to approve the job description for the Emergency Medical Services Shift Supervisor.

Mr. Bell asked Commissioner Porter if he had made a decision about doing maintenance to Smith Road. Commissioner Porter advised the Board that he would do emergency maintenance only on Smith Road in District 4. He would not be willing to take it as a county road. The road is a government road.

The Board placed on the consent agenda to allow emergency maintenance on Smith Road in District 4.

Commissioner Infinger advised the Board that he had been requested by the school district to help recover a school bus that was stolen and driven into a lake. Commissioner Infinger and several shop employees assisted in the recovery of the bus. He also stated that the costs for the salary of the employees would be figured and submitted to the State Attorney's Office for possible restitution if someone is prosecuted for the crime.

Mr. Bell advised the Board that Preble-Rish sent out bids to three contractors for the construction of the Old Jolly Bay Road Bridge in District 1. Written proposals were received from Murphy Bridge Corporation for \$74,943.00, Southeastern Mechanical for \$58,773.78, and F.W. Contractors submitted no proposal. The bid procedure was waived due to the emergency situations, but the Board did receive the proposals.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to accept the quote

from Southeastern Mechanical for \$58,773.78.

The Board also agreed to place on the consent agenda to appoint Commissioner Joel Paul, Jr., to the Jobs and Education Partnership Board.

Mr. Bell also advised the Board that they will be meeting in a workshop with the fire districts on January 6, 1997 at 6:30 P.M.

Ms. Shirl Williams submitted three quotes on three computers for the Planning Department. She informed the Board that the funds to purchase the equipment would be taken out of the EcoSystem grant account. Ms. Williams requested to take the lowest quote and purchase the computers. The bids received were from DELL Marketing for \$3,813.00, Nick's Computers for \$3,877.20, and EnterComp Consulting Group for \$4,210.60.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to waive the bid procedure and purchase two computer terminals for the Planning Department from DELL for \$3,813.00 each. The funds will be taken from the EcoSystem Funds.

Ms. Williams also requested to have a workshop on the Land Development Code on February 12, 1997 at 1:00 P.M.

Ms. Williams asked the Board to consider replacements for the Planning Commission and the Code Enforcement Board. She also relayed to the Board that Ms. Cobena had contacted her inquiring when the Board would appoint the Greenways Committee.

Mr. Ronnie Bell advised the Board that the County had received a grant in the amount of \$171,496.00 from the Blue Ridge International Products Company.

Mr. Tom Powell advised the Board that Mr. Logan will have to take care of the deeding of the land for the Freeport Truss Road and he would be working with Mr. Logan to see that it is taken care of.

Ms. Martha Ingle inquired of the Board that on November 12, 1996 a motion was made to include Mallet Drive in District 5 with Bid 96-117 that was awarded to Okaloosa Asphalt. She stated it should have also included Rodney Drive. She asked Commissioner Butler to check with his road foreman to see if the paving had also been done to Rodney Road.

Ms. Ingle advised the Board that the ad valorem tax needed to be paid on the hospital for the indigent care. The agreement with Healthmark was that they would pay a portion of the ad valorem tax and the County would pay a portion. The County's portion is \$3,254,52. The hospital has paid \$6,494.31 payable to the Board. Ms. Ingle requested that the Board authorize

the Chairman to sign a check in the amount of \$9,748.83 to Sue Carter, Tax Collector, of which, \$3,254.52 is the County's share.

The Board placed on the consent agenda to approve payment of taxes on Walton Regional Hospital for \$9,748.83.

The Board placed on the consent agenda to approve the 1997 Holidays as follows: January 1 New Year's Day, January 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, May 26 Memorial Day, July 4 Independence Day, September 1 Labor Day, November 11 Veteran's Day, November 27 and 28 Thanksgiving Holidays, and December 25 and 26 Christmas Holidays.

Ms. Ingle informed the Board that the year end report from the Sheriff's Department had been submitted to the Clerk's Office. The Sheriff returned \$906.22 from his 1996 budget.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to approve the annual report for the Sheriff's Department.

The Board placed on the consent agenda to approve the bonds for the following elected officials: Dan Bodiford, Clerk; Sue Carter, Tax Collector; Quinn McMillian, Sheriff; George Patrick Wilson, South Walton Mosquito Control; and James Taylor, South Walton Mosquito Control.

Commissioner Porter advised the Board that he had been contacted by the City asking the Commissioners to drop a box on the property to place metal items in. The property is the Nowling property which has been condemned by the City. The Department of Environmental Protection has given the City permission to bury the box after they have completed the project.

Commissioner Butler advised the Board that he had five employees in District 5 whose probation period was up. The employees had previously been promised a 50¢ an hour increase in wages after their probation was complete.

Chairman Young suggested that the Board review the list of all employees and compare the salaries of each district. The Board agreed to postpone the salary increase for the five employees in District 5 until the matter can be looked into further.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to allow a one time only maintenance work be done on Donald Hurley Road.

Commissioner Paul informed the Board that he had been given written permission by the Valley View Trustees to use the Valley View School as the new District 1 office. Repairs would have to be done to the building or a new one built and a fence erected on the property. He further stated that the agreement was that in four years the contract would be reviewed and if

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the Trustees decided they wanted the County to vacate the premises all improvements would be left. Commissioner Paul also stated that his other alternative location for his yard would be McKinnon Pit. He asked the Board for any recommendation that they may have.

The Board agreed to place on the consent agenda to allow emergency maintenance be done on Robbins Road off of Eagle's Way in District 3.

The Board recessed at 5:30 P.M.

APPROVED: _____

William A. Young, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Catherine King, Clerk