

ORDINANCE 2002-05

AN ORDINANCE OF WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE PROVISION OF INSTRUMENTS OF RECOGNITION, FOOD, BEVERAGES, LODGING AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS, CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING WALTON COUNTY; PROVIDING FINDINGS OF FACT; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FOR SAID PUBLIC PURPOSES; REQUIRING THE PROMULGATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVES FOR IMPLEMENTATION; PROVIDING FOR COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE WALTON COUNTY CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by Section 125.01(1), Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners of Walton County has the power to carry on County government to the extent not inconsistent with general law and to adopt ordinances and resolutions necessary for the exercise of its power; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Walton County is desirous of enhancing within Walton County Government, including its constitutional offices, the productivity and efficiency of the working environment, and within the community a better understanding of County programs and services and engendering a spirit of cooperation and goodwill.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Board of County Commissioners of Walton County, Florida, as follows:

SECTION I – FINDINGS OF FACT

It is hereby found and determined by the Board of County Commissioners of Walton County that the expenditure of public funds in compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance can serve a proper and valid public purpose, and that the requirements set forth, herein provide controls to guard against abuse and assure accountability to the taxpayers and the public.

SECTION II – AUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES

Walton County Government may expend funds of the County for the following purposes:

- A. For instruments of recognition to organizations, employees, and volunteers within the County government, and to governmental boards, councils, committees, and other ad hoc groups established by the County and their members.
- B. For the reasonable cost of employee functions held to recognize longevity or meritorious service to County government.

- C. For the cost of food and non-alcoholic beverages served at any meeting, training program, workshop or function held by Walton County or any agency or department thereof.
- D. For meals and lodging for visiting officials or dignitaries necessary to promote intergovernmental and public/private sector coordination. Such expenditures shall not include payment for alcoholic beverages.
- E. Meals and non-alcoholic refreshments in connection with recruitment proceedings for managerial employees.
- F. For the membership and attendance costs associated with civic, non-profit community service or professional associates which service and promote the general welfare of the people of Walton County. Expenditures may include the costs of attending breakfast, luncheon or dinner functions of any such association, but in no event shall it include the cost of alcoholic beverages.
- G. For recognition events (to include meals, hospitality and gifts of a nominal value) by the County, to acknowledge service by nonprofit civic and fraternal organizations or in celebration and commemoration of special events.
- H. For meals incidental to the conduct of County business, wherein a County official or employee authorized pursuant to Administrative Directives of the County Administrator may incur expenses for those in attendance.
- I. For reimbursement to civic and fraternal organizations to defray the costs of special events that promote and engender good will toward the County.

SECTION III – PROMULGATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVES

The County Administrator shall promulgate procedures, including rules and regulations, as necessary to implement and regulate the activities and expenditures authorized by this Ordinance.

- A. Compliance with State Law

No provision of this Ordinance shall be construed to relieve any public officer or employee from compliance with the provisions of Chapter 112, Florida Statutes.

- B. Severability

If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

C. Inclusion in Walton County Code

It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners that the provision of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Walton County Code and that the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered and the word "Ordinance" may be changed to "section," "article," or such other appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intentions.

D. Effective Date

A certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the Department of State by the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners within ten (10) days after enactment by the Board of County Commissioners and shall take effect when official acknowledgment has been received from that office that the same has been filed.

SECTION IV – APPLICATION OF ORDINANCE

This Ordinance applies to all County departments, divisions, and offices established pursuant to Article VIII, Section 1(d) of the Constitution of the State of Florida, as well as the governing body of Walton County.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA this 12th day of March, 2002.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: Lane C. Rees
Lane C. Rees, Chairman

ATTEST:

Martha Ingle
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts