

FEBRUARY 22, 2000 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2000, at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioner’s Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board members were present: Chairman Van Ness R. Butler, Jr., Vice-Chairman Randall Infinger, Commissioner Herman Walker, Commissioner Joel Paul, Jr., and Commissioner Gene Ryan. Mr. Ken Little, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, Mr. George Ralph Miller, County Attorney, and Mr. Dan Bodiford, Clerk of Courts, were also present.

Chairman Butler called the meeting to order followed by pledging allegiance to the American Flag and prayer.

The Board postponed approval of the minutes for February 8, 2000, Regular Meeting, until Tuesday, March 14, 2000, Regular Meeting, for further review.

Mrs. Suedelle Wilkerson, Finance Supervisor, presented the Expenditure Approval List (EAL) consisting of the following bills for payment:

General Fund	\$511,714.14
County Transportation	229,213.84
N. Walton Mosquito	1,238.84
Mosquito Control State	4,878.00
Walton-DeFuniak Library	11,261.79
Recreation Plat Fee	151.46
Solid Waste Enterprise	85,775.27
Mossy Head VFD	681.85
Glendale VFD	638.58
Darlington VFD	838.18
Liberty VFD	264.85
Red Bay VFD	41.56
Special Law Enforcement	11,000.00
Driftwood	245.22

TDC	40,907.89
Section 8	363.53
Multi-Purpose Trust Fund	12,335.00

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Paul, to approve payment of bills as presented on the EAL. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Infinger, to approve payment of an invoice in the amount of \$36,577.60 for installation of a signal light at Holiday Road and U.S. Highway 98, to Ingram Signalization, Inc. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to approve the purchase of books from Winnebago Software Company in the amount of \$1,270.00 for the Walton-DeFuniak Library. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Langdon Haynes, Purchasing Agent, appeared before the Board to present recommendations regarding Bid #00-018, six Roll-Off Containers and Bid #00-019, ten Recycling Trailers. Mr. Haynes advised that Mr. Rusty Floyd, Landfill Supervisor, concurred with these recommendations.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to accept the recommendation of Mr. Haynes and Mr. Floyd to award Bid #00-018, six Roll-Off Containers, to McClain Southland Company, in the amount of \$14,560.00. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to accept the recommendation of Mr. Haynes and Mr. Floyd, to award Bid #00-019, ten Recycling

Trailer, to Pro-tainer, Inc., in the amount of \$66,500.00 (alternate proposal). Ayes 5, Naves 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Infinger, to approve the purchase of software for the copier located in Central Purchasing, in the amount of \$1,595.00 from Copy Products Company. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Infinger, to approve revision of Bid #00-009, 35 ton Lowboy Trailer, awarded to Clark Trailer Company, in the amount of \$22,010.00. The revised bid, in the amount of \$38,410.00, includes the re-design features submitted to Clark Trailer Company by Mr. Haynes, Mr. Ronnie Bell, Public Works Director and Mr. Bobby Ammons, Right-of-Way Clearing Foreman. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Infinger, to approve the transfer two surplus vehicles from the Sheriff's Department, one to Courthouse Maintenance and one to EMS. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Commissioner Ryan requested Mr. Haynes supply each county department information on items being surplus, and allow each department to have first consideration before items are placed in the bidding process or auction. Mr. Haynes stated two weeks would allow time to submit a general notice to each department.

Mr. Haynes expressed his desire to implement a quarterly employee recognition awards program within Central Purchasing. The Commissioners recommended that Mr.

Haynes wait until completion of the Classification, Compensation and Performance Evaluation Study before implementing the award program.

Mr. Haynes informed the Board that the equipment presently being used by the Paint Crew is not in compliance with the Department of Transportation (DOT). Mr. Haynes stated that the equipment currently being used is for oil-based paint and DOT stipulates that water-based paint is required.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids for the purchase of equipment to use for water-based traffic paint. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Commissioner Walker voiced his concerns regarding the Human Resource Department in reference to comments he had received from applicants concerning the application process. Commissioner Walker stated that the Human Resource Department and other departments within the County who are not presently under any supervision, need to be placed under an “umbrella” for direction.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Paul, to place the Human Resource Department and other unsupervised departments within the County, under the supervision of the Administrative Supervisor.

Further discussion suggested waiting until completion of the Classification, Compensation and Performance Evaluation Study in order to have a guideline to follow before making this decision.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Paul, to amend the above motion as follows: to place, on an interim basis, the Human Resource Department

and other unsupervised departments within the County, under the supervision of the Administrative Supervisor. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Ryan Aye, Infinger Naye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Commissioner Infinger and Commissioner Ryan, scheduled on the agenda, did not present any items for discussion.

The Commissioners took a brief recess at 9:10 a.m.

The Commissioners reconvened at 9:35 a.m.

Mr. Little presented letters received from Aaron and Mathew Richardson expressing their thanks to the Board for supporting the Science Fair and the awards they were granted.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to adopt Resolution (2000-11), supporting a dedicated funding appropriation for Rural Infrastructure Funding. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve for Mr. Phil McMillian and Mr. Raymond Gainey, Veteran's Office, to attend the 49th Annual Veteran Service Officer Training Program in Jacksonville, Florida, May 7-12, 2000. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Little requested the Board allow him to meet with the City of DeFuniak Springs regarding the abandonment of an alleyway adjacent to the Rushing property located on 5th Street and Sloss Avenue. Mr. Little reported that CarlanKillam Consulting

Group desires to include all or a portion of this alleyway for the parking garage in order to allow more capacity in the plans for stormwater and buffering issues.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to authorize Mr. Little to pursue the abandonment of the alleyway adjacent to the Rushing property with the City of DeFuniak Springs for an approximate cost of \$100.00. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Little presented the Board with a request from Mr. Charlie Day, Chief, Argyle Volunteer Fire Department, to transfer two surplus ambulances from EMS to the Argyle Volunteer Fire Department. The Board advised Mr. Little that, in the future, any surplus vehicles exceeding the needs of the Public Works Department would be considered for all departments within the County, including the fire departments.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Ryan, to approve the contract with Analytica to conduct a Classification, Compensation and Performance Evaluation Study. The contract has been reviewed and approved by Ms. Shirl Williams, and Attorney Miller and is to be effective March 1, 2000. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Little updated the Board on the pre-negotiation meeting held February 9th and 16th, 2000, with Mark Carrell and Doug Wright, Watkins Construction. The meeting was to discuss the draft contract for the various projects to be performed by the Construction Manager and the proposed time line for the projects. The Board advised Mr. Little and Commissioner Butler to work together on the progress of the projects with the Construction Manager.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to appoint Mr. Little as Project Manager for the Classification, Compensation and Performance Evaluation Study. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Paul, to approve the following appointees to the Coastal Dune Lake Task Force Committee:

- DEP – Office of Beaches and Coastal Systems – Designee
- Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission – request local designee
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife – Lorna Patrick or designee
- Local Division of Parks & Recreation – Eric Kieffer or designee
- Local Army Corp of Engineers – Rick Holden or designee
- Extension Agent I, Marine/Coastal Resources – Robert Turpin
- Walton County Commissioner – Van Ness R. Butler, Jr., District 5
- Walton County Planning Commission – Mike D’Autilla
- South Walton TDC Beach Manager – Bradley Pickle
- St. Joe/Arvida Company LP – Vice-President William Britt Green or designee
- Seaside Town Council – David Scruggs or designee
- Bureau of Marine Fisheries Management/Artificial Reef Program – William (Bill) Horn
- Citizen - Malcolm Patterson
- Citizen – Ed Latham
- Citizen – Gene Wesley

Mr. George Russell, Choctawhatchee Audubon, who was present at meeting, was also added to the list. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Ronnie Bell, Public Works Director, presented a request from the Walton County School District to place a load of dirt on the property of Ms. Inez Chrishon, District 1, due to her parking the school bus at her home.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Infinger, to approve the School Board’s request to place and spread dirt on Ms. Chrishon’s property, District 1. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Discussion was held regarding an easement on DeFuniak Street, District 5. Mr. Bell advised a thirty foot easement is needed to extend DeFuniak Street an additional two hundred feet, which will allow Ms. Donna Florence access to her property to construct to a home and another access to the beach. The Board deferred this item for two weeks pending additional information.

Mr. Bell presented a letter from Mr. James Moore, Magdan, Incorporated, which explained that Magdan has acquired property located near the intersection of Interstate 10 and State Road 285. Magdan is proposing to construct a new business and is requesting the County's assistance in obtaining a one hundred foot access road across property owned by Eglin Air Force Base to his property, thus becoming a county road. Mr. Moore stated that Magdan will be responsible for constructing the road.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to authorize Attorney Miller to work with Mr. Moore and Mr. Bell in an attempt to obtain the necessary access. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Paul, to accept the recommendation of Mr. Bell and approve an increase of \$2.00 per ton for liquid asphalt for bid #98-122, as originally bid by Couch and #98-101, as originally bid by APAC. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Bell presented a proposal from Preble-Rish for Williams Road Bridge for a dredge and fill permit. Mr. Bell stated the total cost of the project is \$16,560.00, which includes the necessary permits from the Department of Environmental Protection.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Ryan, to approve the proposal as submitted by Preble-Rish in the amount of \$16,560.00. Ayes 5, Nays 0.

Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Bell presented, for the Board's review, a letter from CarlanKillam Consulting Group, Inc., regarding the increase of the projected cost for the South Walton Courthouse Annex and the South Walton Governmental & Educational Center.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve a right-of-entry agreement for William A. Rushing, District 1, for the purpose of covering an abandoned well. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Bell presented an amendment to the contract with Natural Resource Conservation Services. The amendment will increase the contract amount from \$800,000.00 to \$860,000.00 in addition to extending the contract portion for Long Road to Glenn T. Warren & Company (name on change order) in the amount of \$92,045.00.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve the amendment with Natural Resource Conservation Services as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve a maintenance agreement between Walton County and the Department of Transportation (Financial Project I.D. 403792-1-32-01) for replacement of the bridge located on Walton Bridge Road/CR 60 over Bruce Creek. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye. (DOT will be replacing the bridge).

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to adopt resolution (2000-08) requesting that DOT install a street light and a flashing caution hospital zone light on US Highway 331 South at the entrance of HealthMark Regional Medical Center (also known as Walton Regional Hospital). Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Infinger, to approve for Chairman Butler to sign an agreement to initiate with the US Department of Agriculture Forestry Service regarding the Mossyhead land exchange, pending Attorney Miller's review. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Bell recommended the Board allow the County's Consulting Engineer, Preble-Rish, to work with Mr. Greg Embree, developer of a subdivision located north of Dune Allen. Mr. Embree is constructing a bike path and footbridge using funds from the impact fees.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Infinger, to accept Mr. Bell's recommendation allowing Preble-Rish to work with Mr. Greg Embree. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Hilton Galloway, Carr, Riggs and Ingram, L.L.P., appeared before the Commissioners to discuss available funding and options for financing the \$20 million proposed capital projects. Mr. Galloway presented several options to the Commissioners with amortization schedules showing the debt service requirements. Mr. Galloway explained the four available options: General Fund, Transportation Trust, Fine & Forfeiture and Solid Waste Fund. Mr. Galloway stated that there are three possible

funding solutions: 20 year bond issue, short-term loan from a commercial lending institution, or the Local Government Finance Commissioner, which has the most favorable rates.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Paul, approving for Mr. Galloway to work with the Administrative Supervisor and the Clerk of Courts to coordinate and present to the Commissioners, tentative funding sources. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

The Commissioners agreed to hold a Special Workshop March 9, 2000, at 8:30 a.m., to further discuss funding options.

The Commissioners recessed briefly at 11:05 a.m.

The Commissioners reconvened at 11:22 a.m.

Ms. Pam Tedesco, South Walton Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the Board and presented a Resolution (2000-09) regarding the need for a South Walton hospital. The resolution requests Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation, Twin Cities Hospital and Forth Walton Beach Medical Center to respect the healthcare needs and cease their attempt to block the proposal submitted by Sacred Heart Health System. The legal challenge filed by Columbia will incur unnecessary costs and delay the opening of the new hospital, which is desperately needed in South Walton.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Paul, to adopt Resolution 2000-09 supporting a South Walton hospital. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Ms. Martha Ingle, Budget Officer, presented the following interdepartmental budget amendment

GENERAL FUND

Board of County Commissioners:

Transfer \$15,500 from Reserve for Contingencies into Land.

Payment for the 15 acres to be purchase from ARC at \$900.00 per acre, \$13,500, and, \$2,000 for an estimated cost.

Transfer \$15,003 from Reserve for Contingencies as follows: \$5,003 into Other Current Charges for the Freeport Little League and \$10,000 into CNC Center. The CNC did not request the final payment of \$10,000 as approved by the board for the 1998-1999 budget year.

COUNTY TRANSPORTATION TRUST

Transfer \$8,425 from Reserve for Contingencies into District 5 Materials.

This is to cover invoices approved for payment by the Board.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve the interdepartmental budget amendment as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Ms. Ingle presented a budget amendment request consisting of the following:

COUNTY TRANSPORTATION TRUST

REVENUE

Amend \$1,333 into Hurricane George.

EXPENDITURE

Amend \$1,333 into Hurricane Georges Professional Services

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Walker, to adopt Resolution (2000-07) approving the budget amendment as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Ms. Ingle presented a report showing the amount of funds remaining in the Reserve for Contingencies before this current budget amendment. Ms. Ingle read the report for the record.

Mrs. Lynda Robinson, Human Resource Officer, appeared before the Board and stated that the Personnel Committee had conducted interviews for the position of Utility Inspector. The Committee recommended hiring Mr. James Harold Taunton, Jr., at \$11.50 per hour.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Infinger, to accept the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and hire Mr. James Harold Taunton, Jr., at \$11.50 per hour as Utility Inspector. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to accept the resignation of Ms. Marsha Shanklin and Ms. Julie Root, TDC employees, and approve to advertise for the position of Marketing Manager to fill the vacancy left by Ms. Shanklin. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, walker Aye, Paul Aye. Mrs. Kriss Titus, TDC Executive Director, requested not to fill Ms. Root's position as Marketing Director until the job description can be redrafted.

Mrs. Robinson presented a six-month employee evaluation on Ms. Kim Mayo, Asset Control Specialist, Purchasing Department. Mrs. Robinson advised that Mr. Langdon Haynes, Purchasing Agent, has requested to reinstated Ms. Mayo's wage to \$10.50 per hour as previously approved.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Paul, to approve the employee evaluation and one-step increase for Ms. Kim Mayo. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to accept the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and approve hiring the following part-time

relief for EMS: Jeremy Abbott, Driver; Robert Wells, EMT; Joseph Tharp, EMT; Michelle Finley, EMT; Heather Burney, Driver; and Leslie Bell, EMT. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Infinger, to allow the County's Administrative Staff to attend an Administrative Assistant's Conference in Pensacola, April 12, 2000. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve a six-month employee evaluation on Brandon Ard, District 3, and grant a one step wage increase. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mrs. Robinson reminded the Board of an invoice from Florida Association of Counties Trust (FACT), in the amount of \$10,000.00 for services relating to Steve Toepper, Diane Sevich, and Roger Anderson. Attorney Miller and Mrs. Robinson will meet and discuss this matter at a later date.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve the job description for the position of Planning Technician. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mrs. Robinson advised the Commissioners that Mr. Jonathon Walker has accepted their offer of \$40,000.00 for the position of Staff Attorney and will begin March 13, 2000.

Mrs. Robinson requested the Board authorize a \$2,000.00 moving expense.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Infinger, to accept Mrs. Robinson's recommendation and allow \$2,000 for Mr. Walker to relocate to Walton County. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Paul, to readdress the issue of Mrs. Kriss Titus' evaluation and wage increase, previously tabled on February 8, 2000. Ayes 5, Nayas 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Ms. Joanne Saucier, Finance Director for South Walton Tourist Development Council, advised that she conducted Mrs. Titus' performance evaluation and stated how pleased she and the TDC Board members are with Mrs. Titus' performance, thereby recommending a seven percent pay increase. Mr. Maurice Gilbert commented on the outstanding job Mrs. Titus has performed and stated that she has exceeded their expectations. Commissioner Paul suggested that the TDC Board develop a pay scale and salary range for all of the TDC staff.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, to accept the evaluation and seven percent pay increase for Mrs. Kriss Titus as presented. Mr. Butler stepped down as Chairman and seconded the motion. Commissioner Infinger accepted the Chair.

Mr. John Sims addressed the Commissioners in opposition to the pay increase. Chairman Infinger called roll on the motion. Ayes 2, Nayas 3. Ryan Aye, Infinger Naye, Butler Aye, Walker Naye, Paul Naye.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Butler, to offer Mrs. Titus a three percent pay increase in accordance with the County's Personnel Policy.

Commissioner Butler motioned to amend the previous motion stating that once the salary study is complete, that the TDC Executive Director's position be raised, in the event the study finds that it merits a raise. Commissioner Ryan seconded the amended motion. Ayes 5, Nayas 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Chairman Infinger called roll on the motion to offer Mrs. Titus a three percent pay increase. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker, Paul Aye. The Board will reconsider her salary after completion of the study.

The Board adjourned for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Chairman Butler called the meeting back to order with Mrs. Robinson presenting her items for discussion.

Mrs. Robinson addressed the Commissioners previous request to revise the Personnel Policy regarding the requirement for a high school diploma or GED for employment. Mrs. Robinson stated that she is against removing the requirement and recommends requiring one or the other and suggested that each case be handled on an individual basis. She further recommended that 12 or more years of credible experience could substitute for the education.

Commissioner Infinger arrived.

Lengthy discussion followed regarding the years of experience an applicant should have in order to waive the high school diploma or GED requirement.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, to change the policy to state that an applicant who can show that they have seven years of bona fide experience will be considered for employment in place of a GED or high school diploma. Motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Infinger suggested Analytica review the issue during their study.

Attorney Miller arrived.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to approve the TDC's recommendation to hire Mr. Brad Pickel for the position of Beach Management

Coordinator with a beginning salary of \$41,000.00 and an additional \$2,000 for relocation expenses. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Commissioner Walker stated that beach renourishment is a natural resource improvement and is not related to people, and therefore, TDC should not be invol

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Walker, to approve a request by Jeffrey Daughtery to withdraw 320 hours from the Sick Leave Pool. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mrs. Robinson presented her findings regarding the reference checks on Mr. Gary Scott for the position of CPA. Mrs. Robinson advised that all of the references spoke highly of Mr. Scott and would recommend him for the position. Mrs. Robinson also presented a letter from Chairman Butler recommending Mrs. Gale Olstad for the position. Both Commissioner Walker and Chairman Butler called various individuals for reference checks on Mrs. Olstad. Mrs. Robinson read into record the phone interview she had with Mr. Harold Bazzel, Bay County Clerk of Court regarding Mrs. Olstad and provided information supplied by other references.

Commissioner Walker questioned. Commissioner Paul and Commissioner Infinger apologized to Mrs. Robinson and the audience regarding the inappropriate comments made by Board members.

Commissioner Ryan concurred with the open apology expressed by Commissioner Paul and Commissioner Infinger and suggested that Mrs. Olstad have the opportunity to respond to the conflicting statements made by the references since she was the number one choice selected by the Board on February 1, 2000. Commissioner Ryan

further stated that the six-month probationary period per the Personnel Policy would allow the Board to observe her abilities in the position of CPA.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Paul, to authorize Mrs. Robinson, Commissioner Ryan and the Administrator Supervisor or Assistant Administrative Supervisor, to pursue the reference checks on Mrs. Gale Olstad and submit their findings to the Board for review. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Discussion was held regarding hiring a professional firm to perform the interviews for certain departments and positions, whereas, the Board agreed to wait until completion of the study.

Mr. Dan Owens, Acting Library Director, requested the Commissioners allow the Purchasing Department establish a purchasing policy that will enable them to purchase back order books, new books, and library related material with a blanket purchase order.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Ryan, to accept the recommendation of Mr. Owens and authorize the Central Purchasing Department to establish a "Blanket Purchase Order" policy for the Walton-DeFuniak Library. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Tom Powell, Walton County Economic Development Council (EDC), presented the EDC's activity report for 1999 for the Board's review.

Mr. Les Hallman, Fire Chief/Administrator, South Walton Fire District, appeared on behalf of the South Walton Fire District, requesting the Board's consideration to support the local bill sponsored by the Northwest Florida Legislative Delegation. The

local bill will enable the South Walton Fire Department to maintain their status as an independent special fire control district.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to approve a request by the South Walton Fire District and support the local bill as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Ms. Ann D. Tucker, Project Coordinator, Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek Indians, presented the Board with a Resolution recognizing the Florida Tribe of Eastern Creek Indians and asked the Commissioners to lend support to the Tribe. Ms. Tucker requested thirty acres be placed into their trust, under a five year lease, with a renewal option at the end of the first five years and designate the property as a “reservation area”. Ms. Tucker stated that the Tribe will not develop the property during the lease period but should the County require the land for other purposes, a trade off will be arranged for the Tribe to assume other acreage. The Commissioners advised Ms. Tucker of property located at the Choctawhatchee River and the landfill stating that the parcels range in size and questioned if the property had to be in one lump acreage. Ms. Tucker stated whatever land was available would be sufficient and as her family is presently living on the property located on the Choctawhatchee River and felt this would be an ideal location for the “reservation”.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Infinger, to support the Resolution with a letter of intent identifying the property once acreage has been designated as a “reservation area”.

The Commissioners took a brief recess at 2:40 p.m.

The Commissioners reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

Chairman Butler called to order the advertised public hearing regarding the Waste Management Franchise.

Attorney Miller presented the Waste Management Franchise Amendment requesting an extension for conveying the forty acres, located at the Governmental Educational Town Center, to Walton County. Mr. Bell summarized the site assessment as presented by Hartman & Associates, Incorporated, advising that the referenced site was permitted as a Class III Landfill. . Mr. Bell advised that ten years remain on the current monitoring closure plan at an estimated annual cost of \$5,000.00. Attorney Miller suggested that if the Board approves the extension, they should consider revising the lease to renew in five-year increments thereby avoiding the monitoring costs. No one from the audience spoke in agreement or opposition to the Waste Management Franchise Agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to accept the Waste Management Franchise Agreement to include the forty acres located on J.D. Miller Road via transfer by Warranty Deed. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Chairman Butler called to order the advertised public hearing to consider creating an Affordable Housing Development Board.

Mr. Ken Little, Assistant Administrative Supervisor, submitted a proposed ordinance for the Affordable Housing Development Board stating that the Housing Authority would present their recommendations, however, the ultimate authority rested upon the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Tim Pauls appeared on behalf of the South Walton Community Council with three basic points for consideration: (1) the need for affordable housing; (2) the type of affordable housing; (3) qualifications for affordable housing. Mr. Pauls stated that the largest obstacle was the utility costs primarily tap fees.

Ms. Beth Folta agreed with Mr. Pauls regarding the need for affordable housing and the cost of utilities as an obstacle along with the market value of property and financing being a deterrent factor involved with renting versus buying.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Ryan, to adopt Ordinance (2000-06), approving the Affordable Housing Development Board. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Naye, Paul Aye.

Chairman Butler called to order the advertised public hearing to consider adopting the Community Directory Sign Ordinance.

Mr. Little presented the proposed Community Directory Sign Ordinance for the Commissioners consideration. Mr. Little advised that the Ordinance pertains to U.S. Highway 98 and stated that this Ordinance does not apply to 30A. Ms. Susan Thorton questioned Mr. Little if there was a plan to include 30A, whereas, Mr. Little advised that 30A standards were within the criteria as established by the Scenic Corridor.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Ryan, to adopt Ordinance (2000-07), establishing a Community Directory Sign for communities and small businesses located off main highways throughout Walton County. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Naye, Paul Aye.

Ms. Paula Ryan introduced her proposed development, Bayside Apartments and stated her desire to establish a community of affordable housing in South Walton County.

Ms. Ryan advised that the proposed development would consist of 160 single-structured units on twenty acres located on Veterans Road, East of CR 393 and West of J.D. Miller Road. Ms. Ryan requested the Board to reconsider the paving of Veterans Road, previously approved by the Board on Tuesday, February 8, 2000, Regular Meeting, for the benefit of her development. In addition, Ms. Ryan also requested the Board to ratify with Regional Utilities regarding the twenty-five percent tap fee discount. Commissioner Walker questioned Ms. Ryan regarding payment of the tap fees and the amount of the discount. Ms. Ryan reported that the amount that was disclosed to her was \$6,050.00 a unit or \$968,000.00, and would be paid at closing. In the event of a shortfall in contributions, Ms. Ryan asked for approval to work with Mr. Bell regarding the County paving the remaining portion of roads inside her project as in-kind service at an approximate cost of \$76,400.00. Ms. Ryan gave an overview of the rental fees that will be assessed to tenants and the criteria for qualifying for housing assistance.

Mr. Tom Powell, Economic Development Council, affirmed that affordable housing is needed in Walton County and strongly urged the Commissioners to support Ms. Ryan's endeavor.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Paul, to approve the paving of Veterans Road to benefit the proposed Bayside Apartment development and use the in-kind contribution from the paving of Veterans Road and the Regional Utilities tap discounts. The County also agrees, in order to allow continuation of the proposed project, to pay any differences of the project cost versus the in-kind contribution; i.e., to include the paving costs of roads inside the subdivision. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Infinger Aye,

Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye. (Commissioner Ryan abstained from voting due to Ms. Paula Ryan being his daughter).

Attorney Miller addressed the Board concerning the McDonald Sign Contract. Mr. Miller requested the Board defer this item until a later date. Mr. Miller stated that he is still attempting to work out the details of the contract with Mr. Kyle McDonald and Mr. Keaton McDonald. The Board concurred.

Attorney Miller informed the Commissioners that he is still attempting to contact Ms. Anne Seymour regarding Lily of the Valley Road. Mr. Miller advised that the road has been opened and also advised the Board of an alternate egress into her property.

Attorney Miller advised the Commissioners that the company who operates the nursing home at Sandestin has filed bankruptcy and is requesting the Board adopt a resolution approving the transfer of ownership of the bonds provided by Walton County, to American Senior Living Limited Partnership, a Florida Living Partnership. The transfer will allow the nursing home to remain open and continue operating.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Ryan, to adopt a resolution (2000-10) approving the transfer of ownership of the tax bonds for Sandestin Nursing Home to American Senior Living Limited Partnership and authorize the Chairman to execute the consent agreement at the time of the sale. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Mr. Dewey Wilson, Regional Utilities, advised the Board that South Walton Utilities has drafted a conceptual agreement to share the transmission line, which will benefit both South Walton Utilities and Regional Utilities. South Walton agreed to pay \$48,000.00 per year for twenty years and also offered two other alternatives. Mr. Wilson

related to the Commissioners that he has spoken with the City of Freeport regarding their option to acquire the surplus. Mr. Wilson reported that his Board of Directors approved the contract.

Motion by Commissioner Paul, second by Commissioner Infinger, to approve the conceptual agreement as presented by Mr. Wilson. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

Attorney Mike Chesser, representing Mr. Gary Spencer and the Grayton Trolley Franchise, appeared before the Board and explained Amendment I to the franchise. Mr. Chesser read the franchise terms, which stated the expiration of the first term of the franchise is amended to April 2010, and thereafter, the term will be extended for a minimum term of two additional ten year renewals, unless evidence is provided that the franchise should not be extended. Attorney Miller stated that a public hearing will be held before each renewal is granted, advising that it is not an automatic renewal.

The Board recessed briefly to allow Attorney Miller and Attorney Chesser to work out the details of the franchise.

Mr. Ronnie Bell presented two additional items to the Commissioners for approval. Mr. Mike Armbruster, Oakwood Hills, requested the Board to provide clay to assist in maintaining Oakwood Hills, Unit 6, and District 3. The request died for lack of a motion.

Mr. Bell reminded the Board that the County is responsible for clearing the debris from the "live burn" site at the old Gaskin School as stated in prior minutes. The Board members discussed placing the old bricks at a location where the public can get them for

a keepsake. The Board agreed to place the bricks at Brown Pit, District 2, and allow the public to get them if they wish.

Commissioner Paul dismissed himself from the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Attorney Miller and Attorney Chesser brought back the amendments to the Trolley Franchise Agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Infinger, second by Commissioner Ryan, to approve the Grayton Beach Trolley Franchise Amendment. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Ryan Aye, Infinger Aye, Butler Aye, Walker Aye, Paul Aye.

There being no further discussion, the Board adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Van Ness R. Butler, Jr., Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Dan Bodiford, Clerk

