

FEBRUARY 13, 2001 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Tim Pauls, Commissioner Larry D. Jones, Chairman Herman L. Walker, Vice-Chairman Lane Rees and Commissioner Gene Ryan. Ms. Shirl Williams, Administrative Supervisor, Attorney George R. Miller, Staff Attorney Jonathan Walker and Ms. Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts, were also present.

Commissioner Pauls led with prayer following the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Chairman Walker called the meeting to order.

Mrs. Patti Yates, Finance Supervisor, presented the Expenditure Approval List consisting of the following bills for payment:

General Fund	\$619,947.60
County Transportation Trust	163,189.51
Fine & Forfeiture	616,686.66
N. W. Mosquito Control	3,379.71
Walton-DeFuniak Library	5,685.10
Solid Waste Enterprise	73,855.00
Mossy Head VFD	1,133.20
Glendale VFD	960.71
Darlington VFD	536.05
Liberty VFD	2,745.89
Red Bay VFD	6,461.93
Special Law Enforcement	150.00
Residential Const. Mitigation Grant	5,000.00
Capital Projects	200,183.14
Tourist Development Council	134,239.37
Section 8 Housing	125,073.80
Multi Purpose Trust	34,611.91

Mosquito Control State	\$	930.60
Recreation Plat Fee		1,416.09

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the EAL as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. William Imfeld, Financial Director, presented a request to adopt a resolution accepting \$100,000.00 into Revenue and Expenditure for a grant monies received from Article IV for architectural fees for courthouse additions and construction.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to adopt a resolution (2001-03) amending \$100,000.00 into county revenues. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to adopt a resolution (2001-04) amending \$10,000.00 into the Wee Care Park funds donated from Mid Bay Timber Company and submit a letter of appreciation. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to adopt a resolution (2001-05) approving to amend \$400,000.00 into Balance Brought Forward/Cash for Road Materials and Supplies from Plat Fee funds for completion of the bike path. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Imfeld presented a request from the Landfill for the purchase of ten-20 yard roll-off-containers. The following two bids were submitted: Southland-\$24,000.00 and Pro-Trainer-\$33,550.00. Mr. Imfeld recommended awarding the bid to McClain Southland, low bidder.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Vice-Chairman Rees to award the low bid to McClain Southland in the amount of \$24,000.00 for the purchase of ten-20 yard roll-off-containers for the Landfill. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Commissioner Pauls questioned the Board if they would consider having them painted in order to identify them as county property. Mr. Imfeld will speak to Mr. Rusty Floyd, Landfill Supervisor, to discuss costs and practicality of painting the dumpsters.

Mr. Imfeld presented bid information relating to construction of the Geo park bike paths. Part A is 1.5 miles along CR 30A, part B is 2.5 miles along Old Highway 98. The following four bids were received: Clark Site Contractors-\$396,796.00; Panhandle Grading & Paving, Inc.-\$575,939.60; Gulf-Atlantic Constructors-\$649,975.00; and C.W. Roberts Construction, Inc.-\$766,773.00. Preble-Rish Engineers handled and reviewed the bids and recommended Clark Site Contractors.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Pauls to accept the recommendation of Preble-Rish and award the bid to Clark Site Contractors in the amount of \$396,796.00 for the Geo park bike paths with the stipulation that they agree not to quit half way through the project. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Imfeld advised the Commissioners that bids were sent out for the purchase of a rescue truck for Tri-Village Fire Department. One bid was received and rejected due to fire department personnel working directly with the same company to draft the specifications for the bid. Mr. Imfeld stated that he would resubmit the specifications and readvertise.

Mr. Imfeld informed the Commissioners that he received four quotes for the purchase of overhead doors for the Liberty Volunteer Fire Department. The low quote was submitted by Southern Door and Hardware, Inc. in the amount of \$4,500.00 and recommended by Roger Roy of the fire department.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the recommendation and award the low quote to Southern Door and Hardware in the amount of \$4,500.00 for the purchase of overhead doors for Liberty VFD. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Imfeld advised the Board that the Library is prepared to order furniture for Freeport and the Coastal Branch libraries. Prices obtained are at state contract price in the amount of \$35,581.00 of which \$29,405.00 Standard Business and \$6,176.00 from Southern Business; funds are in the budget.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Rees to approve the expenditure of funds for library furniture in the amount of \$35,581.00. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Imfeld reminded the Board that previous approval was granted to install a traffic light at Bayside at an approximate cost of \$200,000.00, which will be reimbursed by the Department of Transportation during their next fiscal year. He requested to bring that amount forward from County Transportation Trust/Public Works to fund the installation.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Rees to adopt a resolution (2001-06) amending County Transportation Trust in the amount of \$200,000.00 into Balance Brought Forward for the Bayside Traffic Light. Ayes 5, Nays

0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Any funds remaining from the project will be returned to the General Fund.

Mrs. Angie Biddle, Grants Coordinator, presented a summary of grant applications that have been submitted and are pending approval for the county at this time. There are four grants relating to Emergency Management Preparedness Assistance.

1) All Hazards Area 1-Wide Telecommunications & Notification System, which is to provide a comprehensive communications system to enhance the county's ability to notify citizens of potential hazards. The grant request is \$300,000.00 with matching in-kind support in the amount of \$65,340.00. Mrs. Virginia Cole, Emergency Management Director, stated that the grant requests had already been submitted upon her taking the position and recommended withdrawing the application request to allow time to regroup. The Commissioners agreed to accept Mrs. Cole's recommendation and submit a letter of request to withdraw the grant application.

2) Rapid Response Command Vehicle Project, which is to provide rapid response command vehicles with the communications and other technological capabilities to enhance on-site incident command operations during times of emergency or disaster. The grant amount requested is \$15,000.00 and an in-kind match of \$48,000.00, which is two rapid response vehicles currently owned by the county and will be designated to this project. Mrs. Cole also recommended withdrawing this application. Commissioner Ryan questioned the need for equipment and how this grant would work together with Emergency Operations. Ms. Cole stated that she feels they will need a larger mobile unit in the future. Only one of the two designated trucks remains, therefore they no longer have the in-kind match available. Discussion was held regarding the Commissioners

obtaining information relating to EOC. Mrs. Williams stated that each Commissioner could meet individually with her to discuss EOC, then they could meet as a whole board to make any final decisions.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to accept Mrs. Cole's recommendation to withdraw the county's request for the Rapid Response Command Vehicle Project. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

3) Red Bay Community Emergency Disaster Center grant is to provide for the construction of a multi-purpose community based emergency disaster center. The grant request is \$166,000.00; \$25,000.00 cash match, and \$18,000.00 in-kind match. Mr. Allen White, Chairman of the Red Bay Community Center, addressed the Commissioners and stated that it was his understanding that Red Bay would come up with the \$25,000.00 for the interior of the building. Capt. Pagels had previously informed him that the Board had agreed to buy a generator of \$12,000.00. He stated that the community of Red Bay would also provide the \$18,000.00. There was some confusion as to who would provide the generator. Mrs. Biddle stated that it was suppose to come from the Emergency Management Budget. Chairman Walker advised Mr. White to clarify the issue with the Sheriff's Department before proceeding any further. Mr. White advised that he has also been in contact with Congressman Scarborough's office seeking federal funds to assist with the project. Ms. Williams advised that the contract could be rejected if it is awarded. It was agreed to proceed with the Red Bay grant request at this time, however, Red Bay is responsible for any matching funds and not the county. Ms. Cole will contact Sheriff Johnson regarding the donation of the generator.

4) Choctaw Beach Community Emergency Disaster Center, which is to provide for the construction of a multi-purpose community based emergency disaster center. The grant request is \$166,000.00; \$13,000.00 cash match from the Choctaw Beach Community Center and \$12,000.00 provided through the Emergency Management of a 20KW generator. The Commissioners agreed to proceed with the grant request with no in-kind match from the Board. Mrs. Cole will notify the county if the Sheriff will not agree to donate the generator.

Mrs. Biddle also presented the following grants under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Proposals. Children's Home Community Center Shelter Retrofit is to utilize the center as an alternative shelter. The county's matching portion is \$360.00.

The following are Wind Retrofit Projects: South Walton Fire District Station 1; South Walton Fire District Station 5; Walton County EMS Station 5; and Walton County Sheriff's Sub-station. Commissioner Pauls wanted assurance that the shelters meet proper guidelines. Mrs. Biddle advised that the Red Cross has approved them. Chairman Walker wanted assurance that the Sheriff will follow through with providing labor to complete the work on these projects and questioned if inmate labor could be used on the South Walton Fire Department because of them being independent. Glendale VFD also has an EMS matching grant for the purchase of Jaws of Life and two AED's. The Commissioners agreed to proceed with all of the Hazard Mitigation Grants.

Mrs. Biddle informed the Board that the Sheriff has requested for her to assist with administering the following current grants.

- 1) Walton County DUI Enhancement Project-
- 2) Byrne State and Local Law Enforcement Grant
- 3) Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Base Grant
- 4) EMPA Competitive Grant Emergency Management Performance Grant

5) EMPG (formally know as State & Local Assistance-SLA)

Mr. Imfeld stated that the county could work with the Sheriff; however, his department must administer and monitor the grant. He also stated that the Sheriff did not anticipate coming up with the \$20,906.27 cash match for the Byrne Grant.

Commissioner Pauls stated that he feels it is in the best interest of the county to work with the Sheriff to monitor these grants and that the county may need to place an additional employee in the grants department.

Commissioner Jones recommended allowing Mr. Imfeld to communicate with the Sheriff and to move forward if they can determine they have the money, if not, they can withdraw the grant if he cannot provide the matching funds.

Mrs. Biddle presented the scope of work and the five-year strategic plan relating to the EMPA Base Grant. She has been given two different strategic plans and requested clarification. Mrs. Cole explained that the Department of Community Affairs is currently working from the most updated five-year plan and stated that there is not a problem with the plan. Mr. Bill Bishop explained the three different budgets that EOC operates from, the Emergency Operations Budget (county ad-valorem tax), the EMPA Trust Budget (EMPA grant monies and the SLA grant monies), and 911. Mr. Bishop explained that the SLA grant provided nearly \$25,000.00 each year for certain items that must be accomplished in the five-year plan. The \$25,000.00 cannot be used to match any other grant monies and must be matched per dollar with non-federal monies. Mr. Imfeld voiced concerns with meeting the criteria if DCA was using the previously submitted

plan (tab B) but stated that the county could operate under the most current five-year strategic plan (tab C).

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to submit a letter of acceptance to DCA for the \$24,827.00. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Biddle presented the information relating to the EMPA Competitive Grant, which is for the Regional Distribution Center at the EOC. The county is obligated to a cash match of \$484,165.00 and in-kind services of \$120,450.00. Mr. Bell will discuss this issue further.

Commissioner Rees questioned if Mrs. Biddle has been in contact with other agencies regarding grants to assure that they are aware of Walton County's grant proposals. Mrs. Biddle advised that she has been. Commissioner Ryan questioned her regarding the Walton County Fair Building. Mrs. Biddle stated that the Walton County Fair Board contacted her requesting her to assist with locating a grant to enlarge the fair building and is asking for a resolution of support for their endeavors. The Fair Board will submit the grant. Commissioner Jones requested a representative from the Fair Board appear to answer questions. Mrs. Biddle will notify them.

Attorney Miller responded to an earlier question and stated that inmate labor could be used at the South Walton Fire District on the Wind Retrofit project.

The Commissioners recessed briefly.

Mr. Ronnie Bell, Public Works Director, appeared before the Commissioners regarding an issue with Avalon Beach Estates. Mr. Bell stated that the subdivision was approved in March of 1994 and the streets were constructed. There are approximately 1

mile of paved streets that they are asking the county to take over for maintenance. Mr. Bell recommended accepting the roads.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Rees to adopt a resolution (2001-07) accepting the streets in Avalon Beach Estates as county maintained roads. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell presented two estimates for the construction of two 25,000 square foot buildings at EOC for budgetary purposes. Two Oaks Construction Inc. presented an estimate in the amount \$1.3 to 1.5 million and Watkins Engineers estimate was \$1,465,336.00. Mr. Bell presented the following options: move forward with advertising for bids; contract with engineering/architectural services to complete the design work in order to advertise for bids; request funding from the State Legislature; request to amend the grant agreement with the Department of Community Affairs to possibly construct one building; or submit a letter to withdraw the grant and possibly resubmit for the grant again next year, which would make the county liable to reimburse the \$66,991.00 the DCA has already given to the county. Mr. Bell stated that it appears that only one building has been delivered and he is working with various individuals to make that determination. There is a possibility the order for the second building could be cancelled and a refund obtained. Mrs. Churchwell advised that the application may not be able to be amended to only one building. Commissioner Pauls stated that he would still like to receive the requested information from Mrs. Churchwell regarding the amount of space the county is required to utilize for the staging center. Attorney Miller advised the Board that the contract would have to be amended if they intend to use the building for anything other than a distribution center. Commissioner Pauls stated that he feels we can't pursue

the grant under the current requirements. Commissioner Ryan questioned the thought process put into this project. This project will serve ten counties and appears to be more of a state issue opposed to only the county and he would like to contact DCA to request additional involvement from them.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to rescind the grant agreement with the Department of Community Affairs for the Regional Distribution Center and refund the \$66,991.00 stating that the county would like to resubmit at a later time.

Commissioner Ryan questioned the county's obligation because of the contribution of funds for the property. Attorney Miller stated that there is not a contract with anyone regarding the property. Mr. Imfeld will prepare a resolution amending the revenues from the Fine & Forfeiture account.

Chairman Walker called for a vote to rescind the agreement. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Jones to lobby the Legislature, Governor, or any agency to request funding to assist with completion of this project. Chairman Walker advised that a letter of request in the amount of \$2 million has already been submitted because of action taken at the last meeting discussing this issue. Commissioner Jones withdrew his motion.

The Board agreed to hold a special meeting on Monday, February 26, 2001 at 9:00 a.m. at the request of Sheriff Johnson, to discuss the necessary jail expansion.

Mr. Bell presented a request on behalf of the Northwest Florida Water Management District requesting assistance with opening a roadway 66' by 2,640 foot

across their property to give access to public lands owned by Water Management District, opening up 3,000 acres of land for both land management and public access. Mr. Bell recommended assisting with the request.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve assisting the Northwest Florida Water Management District with opening a roadway. Commissioner Pauls questioned the need to clear the entire 66' and requested a tally of actual costs that the county will incur. Mr. Bell stated that they are responsible for obtaining the necessary permits. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell informed the Commissioners that the county will be holding Amnesty Day on March 10, 2001 at the Walton County Fair Building and South Walton Mosquito Control for county residents to dispose of hazardous materials. DEP Grant monies help pay for this.

Chairman Walker questioned Mr. Bell regarding the landfill issue and the letter received by Mr. Kirby Green. Mr. Bell explained that he has met with representatives of Hartman & Associates who are reviewing the issue.

Mr. Bell stated that he has been working with Commissioner Rees regarding office space for a District 1 Office in the south end. Mr. Bell is proposing to add a small 600 square foot building at the South Walton Annex. Mr. Brian Kellenberger of Watkins advised that the addition might hinder paving at the new annex. Commissioner Rees stated that the trailer could be placed across the road at the Sheriff's sub-station. He stated that his current office is not handi-cap accessible and would like to move expeditiously to relocate. Another issue that would have to be considered is utilities.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to allow Mr. Bell to proceed with the placement of a building to house the District One Office. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell presented a request for a road name change from Old Highway 98 (CR2378) to Scenic Gulf Drive. Mr. Bell explained the normal procedure and stated that because of the enormity of the project the Commissioners may want to hold a public hearing to allow the residents an opportunity to voice any concerns.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Rees to hold a public hearing to consider the possibility of changing the name of Old Highway 98 to Scenic Gulf Drive. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. A specific date and time will be advertised.

The Commissioners agreed to hold their April 10, 2001 meeting in the Tourist Development Council's Boardroom along with staff presentations also, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Bell presented the paving priority list to the Commissioners for the CDBG roads, which will be advertised for bids next week. Mr. Bell stated that the right-of-way issues have been resolved.

Mr. Bell also presented information relating to the DOT Small County Outreach Program for CR-2 from U.S. 331 to S.R. 83 in District 2 and CR-2 from S.R. 83 to the Holmes County line also in District 2. He stated that he is awaiting a Joint Participation Agreement from DOT before forwarding these projects to Preble-Rish for design, permitting and bidding.

Information was also presented regarding the DOT County Incentive Grant for Church Street, Churchhill Bayou Road, and Chat Holly Road and the Emergency Management/DCA Grant, which is for Perkins Road. Mr. Bell presented the proposed candidate projects for DOT Small County Outreach Program for fiscal year 2001/02 for CR 181 from S.R. 82 –CR 2 to widen and resurface, and CR 185 from S.R. 83 to the Holmes County line for resurfacing.

Motion by Commissioner Rees and Commissioner Jones to approve to submit CR 181 and CR 185 for consideration as candidate projects for the DOT Small County Outreach Program to receive funding during fiscal year 2001/02 for resurfacing. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell presented a list of projects currently funded by monies brought forward from reserves in 1997 (\$6 million). He stated that some of the roads are currently being worked on and some have been bid for work to begin. Mr. Bell also presented the proposed 2000/01 resurfacing plan as provided by the road foremen. The Commissioners requested additional time to review the list for further consideration. In order to proceed quickly Mr. Bell asked that it be reviewed as quickly as possible in order to identify any right-of-way issues that may exist if other roads are selected.

Commissioner Pauls reminded the Board of the importance in working with Regional Utilities when paving Chat Holly Road and Church Street because of their utility expansion. He wants to prevent Regional Utilities from damaging the road after it is paved.

Mr. Tom Piggott, President of Doggett Canal Subdivision, questioned what type of road surface the county would be putting in their area. Mr. Bell stated that this work is

proposed to be done this year with the S1-asphalt or the open graded type of material as used on East Point Washington Road. Bids will be advertised for the most cost effective method.

Mr. Bell presented a request from Maude Saunders Elementary School for assistance from the county to clear an area on the east side of the playground for evacuations in emergencies.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Rees to approve an interlocal agreement with Walton County School Board to clear property at Maude Saunders Elementary School. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell presented a list of changes from Watkins Engineers for the Sheriff's Satellite Office. Five items are listed on the change request, which will result in a decrease of \$5,900.00. Mr. Brian Kellenberger explained the changes.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the change order for the Sheriff's Sub-station resulting in a decrease. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell presented a change order request from Watkins Engineers on behalf of the Coastal Branch Library to add light fixtures and all necessary wiring. The change order resulted in an increased amount of \$6,350.00. Mr. Dan Owens, Librarian, explained that the need for the additional lighting is due to the design of the shelving units. Mr. Kellenberger advised the Board that he has offered value engineering and budget analysis services in an attempt to reduce cost; however, those services were rejected. Chairman Walker requested a letter be sent to the architect to show the county's

dissatisfaction with the changes. Mr. Kellenberger requested approval to change the specifications of the lighting. The Board agreed to instruct the architect to engage in more communications with the owner in order to receive better value on purchases and instruct them to honor the value engineering services of Watkins Engineering.

Commissioner Ryan reminded the Board that they had previously agreed that the Library architect couldn't continue coming to the Board for additional changes. Commissioner Jones also requested a list of savings that could have been to the county's advantage if the architect would have used the value engineering services of Watkins.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Rees to agree to install the additional fixtures as requested subject to review of the type of fixture in order to reduce the potential cost. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell requested to advertise for bids for bridge structures for George Montgomery Road Bridge. The approximate cost of \$100,000.00 for a 66 foot wide bridge.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve to advertise for bids for bridge structures. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. (The joint participation agreement was approved at the last meeting).

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to adopt a resolution posting a speed limit of 45 mph on CR183B. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell presented a request from DOT for a right-of-way deed from the county along 3000' of the South Walton Governmental Education Center. The deed is for excel and decel lanes. DOT is not purchasing the right-of-way because they will be installing the lanes for the county.

Motion by Commisisoner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to adopt a resolution granting DOT's request for a right-of-way deed for the purpose of installing excel and decel lanes for the Governmental Education Center. Ayes 5, Nayas 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to approve payment to Gum Creek Farms in the amount of \$5,735.00 for paving of the approaches on Corbin Gainey Road Bridge. Ayes 5, Nayas 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell requested approval to obtain quotes for approximately 28 loads of rip rap for completion of Natural Bridge on CR 181. This is a DSR project from Hurricane Georges.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Rees to approve to obtain quotes for the purchase of rip rap. Ayes 5, Nayas 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the purchase of 100 drums of base seal and 50 drums of top shield in the amount of \$76,994.00. Ayes 5, Nayas 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Chairman Walker questioned the quality of the product. Mr. Bell advised that the product has only been used for two years, which may not be long enough to determine.

Mrs. Sue Carter, Tax Collector, appeared before the Commissioners regarding advertising for delinquent taxes. Mrs. Carter stated that the DeFuniak Springs Herald-Breeze has generally been used because of their broad circulation throughout the county. Mrs. Carter quoted Rule 12D13.036 stating that if the Board does not select a paper by February then the Tax Collector can make the decision. Certain criteria must be met for selection of the newspaper. Mrs. Carter explained the target market and who the target buyers of the certificates are. Meg Stevenson, Editor of the Herald & Beach Breeze, stated that the majority of properties listed are located north of the bay and further stated that her paper covers the entire area of the county. Vice-Chairman Rees felt that it would be fair to bid the process and to utilize the newspaper that covers the largest geographical area of circulation.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to start the process to obtain bid proposals for legal advertising within 30 days. Ayes 5, Nayes 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

The Commissioners recessed briefly.

Mr. Ken Little gave an overview of the criteria and process county staff used for ranking the proposals for lobbyists. Eight proposals were submitted and the following firms were selected as the top three: Verner, Liphert, Bernhard; Hefley & Associates; and Pennington Law Firm.

Mr. Jeff Liphert and Mr. Alex Heckler of Verner, Liphert, Bernhard, gave a presentation to the Commissioners regarding their firm's experience with lobbying at the state and federal levels and the companies they represent. Mr. Liphert gave an overview of their team members and each of their abilities and strategies used to lobby the

Legislature. Mr. Heckler gave an overview of the team members that lobby at the federal level. He stated that their firm is not too large to provide good representation to Walton County. Mr. Heckler reviewed the costs for lobbying services, which are \$38,000.00 for state and \$27,000.00 for federal including expenses.

Mr. Little introduced the number three-ranked firm, Hefley & Associates. Mr. Rich Hefley and Mrs. Kelly Horton appeared to discuss their proposal. Mr. Hefley gave an overview and emphasized the effectiveness of working closely with members of the Cabinet, Senate and House. He stated that their strength is the size of their firm; they are small enough to provide good service.

Mrs. Horton, a native of Walton County, addressed the benefits of local representation and explained the charges of \$5,000.00 per month for both state and federal representation, all inclusive, no additional expenses for lobbying in Tallahassee; however, additional travel would be charged if trips had to be made to Washington D.C. They explained that no additional charges would be incurred if they were needed in Walton County and they were already here.

The Commissioners recessed for 30 minutes.

Chairman Walker called the meeting back to order and opened the public hearing to consider the Planning Commission recommendations.

Mr. Rob Neale, Chairman of the Planning Commission, introduced Mr. Tom McGee who will be taking the position of Chairman for the upcoming year. Mr. Neale presented the Hamon/Christian International Network Ministries small-scale amendment for consideration. Wilford S. and Evelyn Y. Harmon/Christian International Network Ministries are requesting the amendment on two parcels totaling 6.1742 acres designated

Future Land Use Institutional to be changed to Village Mixed Use. The Planning Commission recommended approval. There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Vice-Chairman Rees to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation and approve the Hamon/Christian International Network Ministries. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. (Ordinance 2001-01) Commissioner Pauls questioned possible traffic and parking problems that could result from the project being located on the opposite side of the road.

Mr. Neale presented the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve Marina Oaks subject to all outstanding items. Mr. Todd Bird is proposing 20 residential lots, consisting of 20 single family lots on 3.3 acres designated Future Land Use NPA/Infill on Mack Bayou Road. The outstanding items consist of the FDEP Stormwater, Wastewater, and Drinking Water permits.

Vice-Chairman Rees questioned if consideration has been given to save the large trees on the lot. Mr. Don Brock, representing the owner of Marina Oaks, stated that they are seeking a variance to relocate the driveway into the property to save the tree. He also advised that the property was removed out of flood zone X and is AE7. Mr. Brock stated that the road would remain a private road. Mr. Ken Shannon, Planning Technician, stated that a sign would have to be placed at the entrance to the subdivision stating that it is a private road. There were no additional public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation and approve the proposed development of Marina Oaks contingent upon receipt of outstanding permits and the variance request for

the driveway in order to save the trees. If the variance is not granted, the applicant is to come back to the Commissioners to readdress the project. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Neale presented the Planning Commission's recommendation for the proposed development of Beach City Motel contingent upon outstanding items and an effort to obtain a cross access driveway with the adjacent business. D/H Oil is proposing a 3-story motel at the northeast corner of Highway 98 and CR 393.

Mr. Wayne Montgomery of D/H Oil appeared before the Board to answer questions about the entrance driveway. There was no additional public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Vice-Chairman Rees to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commissioner and approve Beach City Motel contingent upon receipt of the outstanding items and obtaining a cross driveway with the adjacent landowner. If not, they are required to appear back before the Board to readdress the issue. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Tom McGee addressed the Commissioners as the newly elected Chairman of the Planning Commission. Mr. McGee requested that Mrs. Henninger schedule all of their meetings in Freeport as a central location for all members of the Board. He also requested an overhead projector be purchased and closed by commending Mr. Neale for the outstanding job he performed as Chairman.

Mr. Neale presented Blues at Grayton, the proposed development by F. Lloyd Blue, Jr. Mr. Blue is proposing a 2,450 square foot live/work unit on property currently designated NPA/Residential Preservation Area. The Planning Commission recommended approval with no outstanding items.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approve the proposed development of Blues at Grayton. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. There were no public comments voiced.

Mr. Neale presented the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the proposed development of Destin Bank subject to comments from the South Walton Fire Department regarding fire hydrant location. Destin Bank Shares Inc. is proposing a 2,070 square foot bank west of the Sandestin entrance. Mr. Russ Aldrich appeared to answer any questions relating to the proposed project. Commissioner Pauls questioned issues relating to the Scenic Corridor.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the proposed development of Destin Bank subject to outstanding items. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Neale presented the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the proposed development of The Mill Outlet contingent upon outstanding state permits and the Scenic Corridor comments. Miramar Development L.L.C. is proposing a 15,999 square foot retail center, consisting of 1,000 square foot storage and 14,999 square foot general business. Scenic Corridor issues have been resolved. Parking issues were discussed and Mr. Shannon stated that the parking requirements have been met. Vice-Chairman Rees stated that he is concerned with a lack of parking. Commissioners Pauls suggested that this issue be tabled for further clarification regarding parking and classification of business. Attorney Miller stated that the Board could require a

developer's agreement that would bind everyone that succeeds this business. Mr. Miller will draft the agreement and present it back to the Board at the next meeting.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to table this issue and readdress during the February 27, 2001 meeting at 10:30 a.m. to allow Attorney Miller to draft the agreement. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Neale presented the previous recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve South Walton Fire District Communication Tower subject to outstanding items; however, the Planning Commission has since requested to table this item pending additional information.

Mr. Tim Durben, American Tower, stated that the advertisement had inaccurate information for the location of the meeting and requested to table this item until March 8, 2001.

Ms. Theresa Altemus appeared before the Board and stated that she is speaking on behalf of her mother who owns adjacent property to the fire department. Ms. Altemus stated that they were not properly notified of the meeting. She stated that approval to install this tower would devalue her mother's property, which she is attempting to sale. Attorney Miller questioned the size of the fall zone. Mr. Gary Wiese, S.W. Fire Department, addressed the Commissioners and stressed the need for the tower. He stated that if the tower were to fall that it would crumble and fall within less than 300 foot. Mr. Shannon advised that the edge of the property line is a distance of 400 feet from the tower site. Ms. Altemus asked that the project be denied or delayed to allow her time to sell the property. She advised that she is currently working with the S.W.F.D. regarding

an offer for the property. Mr. Wiese stated that he would present the asking price to his Board of Directors; however, he feels the price is too high.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to table approval of the South Walton Fire District Communication Tower pending the Variance Board of Adjustments readdressing the issue and coming back to the Board. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Neale presented the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Joyce petition for abandonment. Mr. Stephen E. Joyce is requesting the abandonment of a minor encroachment of A/C slab and building into a thirty-foot county drainage easement that is located on Walton Way. The final public hearing is scheduled for March 27, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. No action was taken pending the final public hearing.

Mr. Neale presented the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Schweizer petition for abandonment. W. Todd Schweizer is requesting to realign the road along the property line and to abandon the existing road on Coyote West. The final public hearing is scheduled for March 27, 2001 at 1:45 p.m. No action was taken pending the final public hearing.

Mr. Neale presented the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the Salvo/Dixon petition for abandonment. Gerald C. Salvo and Carl Dixon are requesting the abandonment of the 66 foot roadway and utility easement. The final public hearing is scheduled for March 27, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. No action was taken pending the final public hearing.

Mr. Neale thanked the Commissioners for being allowed to serve in the position of Planning Commission Chairman. The Board thanked him for his service.

Mr. Allen Tucker presented Landing at Camp Creek plat for final plat approval. Attorney Miller reviewed the plat and advised that another signature is required on the dedication statement. Mr. Tucker advised that the roads are private roads as stated on the plat they are dedicated to the homeowners association.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve Landing at Camp Creek for final plat approval contingent upon receiving required signature. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Jay Baynes, Northwest Florida Engineering and Surveying, appeared on behalf of Florida Development Group for Majestic Sun. Mr. Baynes requested approval of three items they are proposing in the county's right-of-way. They would like to add a 5 foot wide concrete bikepath/sidewalk, some of which will be located in the right-of-way. The second item is to match the surrounding landscape which varies from the plan and they would also like to request a valet parking drop-off zone for three cars until the attendant could relocate them to the parking area.

Chairman Walker stepped out and turned the chair over to Vice-Chairman Rees.

Commissioner Pauls questioned if communication has taken place with Preble-Rish Engineering to assure that the plans of Majestic Sun align with the county's plans. He also asked if there was a possibility that the valet parking could be moved back within their front setback. Mr. Baynes stated that he will contact his client regarding the parking and further requested conceptual approval until these items can be reviewed and be presented back to the Board at a later date.

Chairman Walker returned.

Commissioner Pauls felt that Mr. Baynes needed more than conceptual approval because of dealing with the right-of-way to protect both them and the county.

Commissioner Ryan stepped out.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to approve for the applicant of Majestic Sun to meet with county staff, utilities, and Preble-Rish to obtain necessary information and bring a revised proposal back to the Board. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye.

Commissioner Ryan returned and Chairman Walker stepped out.

Mr. Russ Aldrich, Emerald Coast Associates, presented two subdivision plats and two condominium plats. He presented Dunes Estates of Seagrove and stated that he has a letter of credit to cover the infrastructure not yet complete. Attorney Miller advised that the plat is in order.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve Dunes Estates of Seagrove final plat for recording. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Aldrich presented Rosemary Beach, Phase 10 final plat for approval. Mr. Aldrich stated that the right-of-way varies from 30-45', which is sufficient.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve Rosemary Beach, Phase 10 for final plat approval. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Aldrich presented Gulfplace Town Center East, A Condominium for final plat approval. Mr. Miller stated that the plat is in order.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to approve Gulfplace Town Center East, A Condominium for final plat approval. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Aldrich presented Emerald Coast Inns & Suites final plat for approval. He stated that this is a conversion of the Holiday Inn Express into a condominium. Attorney Miller advised that the Board is not required to approve condominiums, but is done out of courtesy.

Commissioner Walker returned and requested Vice-Chairman Rees to continue as Chairman.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to grant final plat approval for Emerald Coast Inns & Suites. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Britt Greene and Mr. Lee Perry, representing Arvida/St. Joe, appeared before the Board and stated that WaterColors DRI was approved approximately 14 months ago. Part of the conditions was to satisfy the impact of affordable housing in Walton County. He advised that they have agreed to fund future development at Bear Creek Development south of Freeport. He believes that this will meet the criteria of the development order. He currently has a non-binding letter of intent with Lee Perry and Bear Creek Development. Mr. Greene stated that have chose to initially fund 50 lots providing funding to develop the lots. No public funding would be required.

Mr. Lee Perry presented the plans for the first phase of the plat approval. Mr. Perry stated that the houses would be for sale and range from \$69,000.00 to \$125,000.00.

Mr. Perry asked for approval of a letter of support conditioned upon the county's review of a final agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Walker to approve a letter of support for the Bear Creek Development contingent upon the county's review of a final agreement. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Chairman Walker accepted the Chair position back.

Chairman Walker recognized former Commissioner Rosier Cuchens who was present.

Ms. Williams presented information relating to the humane society as requested by Commissioner Jones. Mr. Jones stated that the contract states that the Human Society shall provide certain records upon request.

Mr. Dale Anderson, President of the Walton County Humane Society, appeared before the Board to answer questions relating to their financial statements. Mr. Anderson read a letter of response from Patsy Register to William Imfeld. He addressed allegations that have been made against Mrs. Register.

Dr. Susan Turner, Walton County Health Department, spoke on behalf of the humane society and stated that they have performed well in response to dog bites through the health department. Dr. Turner addressed the rabies issues and wants to assure that rabid animals are properly quarantined. She explained the statutory requirements that they must adhere to when treating patients with animal bites. She also stated that the humane society has certain requirements for passing information to the health department regarding animal bites.

Mr. Anderson stated that the humane society abides by the ordinances as the Board of County Commissioners adopts them. Concerns were voiced regarding mandatory evacuations in the south end and the humane society's ability to house the animals. Mr. Anderson stated that the animals could not be transported under those conditions and would have to be put to sleep. He does not disagree with a satellite office in South Walton.

Chairman Walker questioned why Paxton was not receiving the service they deserve. Mr. Anderson addressed the concerns and stated that the City of Paxton or DeFuniak does not have a contract. The City of DeFuniak Springs delivers the dogs they pick up to the humane society. Options were given to Paxton and they chose to place their animals in a holding pen until the humane society picked them up. Mr. Anderson stated that the Board of Directors decided not to pick animals up from Paxton any longer due to threats made against humane society personnel.

Mr. Scott Wheeler, Animal Control Supervisor, explained the situation that happened with Mr. Vincent Labett, a Paxton resident.

Chairman Walker stated that Paxton deserves the same service the rest of the county receives.

Mrs. Patsy Register addressed the issue relating to Mr. Labett and gave her account of the incident when Mr. Labett displayed a weapon at a City Council meeting. She stated that his hostility and anger was directed at her and she felt threatened by him and by the display of the weapon. Commissioner Ryan voiced concerns with the deputy not being accountable for not taking action against Mr. Labett at the time of the incident.

He felt that Paxton should respond to the options given by the humane society and further asked that the Sheriff provide assurance that his deputies are acting according to the laws.

Discussion was held relating to the service Paxton provided by housing a number of horses for the humane society. Mr. Wheeler stated that the humane society was not going to charge Paxton for their services in return for housing the horses.

Officer Newborn was present and gave his account of the incident that happened between Mr. Labett and Mrs. Register. He stated that Mr. Labett never displayed a gun at the meeting otherwise he would have taken action. Officer Newborn also stated that Mrs. Register could have filed a complaint if she felt threatened.

Mrs. Register stated that upon returning home, she called her attorney and the Sheriff to report the issue.

Mr. Anderson stated that he will address this issue with Paxton, meanwhile he directed the Board to forward any calls regarding animal control to him personally and he would respond to the calls. Again, Chairman Walker stated that it is unacceptable for the humane society not to provide service to Paxton.

Former Commissioner, Ro Cuchens, addressed the Board and stated that a weapon should not be allowed at any kind of council meeting and further stated that \$500.00 a year is not sufficient to cover costs to provide this service to Paxton.

Ms. Linda Morris stated that many problems exist with the humane society because the ordinance is not clearly defined.

Ms. Martha Wallace stated that she feels they have done a good job.

Vice-Chairman Rees stated that the contract needs to be updated and reports need to be submitted to the Board regarding job performance. Ms. Register agreed to submit an activity report to the Commissioners.

In closing, Mr. Anderson reminded the Board that funds were approved over two years ago to purchase new property or to construct a new facility. He stated that they have completely outgrown the current facility and requested the Board release the \$69,000.00 in order to allow them to proceed with building a new facility. He also asked the Board to review the numerous Animal Control Ordinances in an attempt to more clearly define them and give the humane society better direction.

Commissioner Pauls spoke of the number of complaints regarding dogs on the beach and stated that a new ordinance needs to be drafted that is enforceable. Mr. Pauls suggested placing animal control officers in South Walton and further questioned the possibility of having a Veterinarian on their Board and representation from a variety of geographical areas of the county. Chairman Walker wanted assurance that Paxton would receive the same considerations.

Mr. Scott Culp, Director of Development for Sandspur Housing, appeared before the Board and reviewed the information that was presented at the January 9th meeting regarding applicable guidelines for the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) 2001 Combined Rental Cycle Application for Housing Credits. The Housing Credit Program is designed to provide quality affordable housing within an economically feasible and sustainable multi-family community development. Mr. Culp stated that there is no conflict with establishing other affordable housing opportunities. He stated that local government contributions could come in the form of discounts. He reviewed his

request for discounts or a deferral of tap fees and stated that he has been speaking with Regional Utilities. Commissioner Ryan and Attorney Miller both advised that they have not been able to locate anyone with Regional Utilities who has had communications with Mr. Culp. Mr. Culp stated that he has spoken with George Ward, Panama City office, and Mr. Frank Herring, President of St. Joe Commercial, Orlando. Until notification of the allocation is made no Planning Department approval is needed. Commissioner Pauls felt that the Planning Commission needs to review this issue first. Mr. Culp stated that he is just asking for support of the Commissioners by resolution. Commissioner Ryan stated that the Commissioners couldn't assure that Regional Utilities would grant a discount of tap fees. Commissioner Rees stated that he is uncomfortable with not going through the Planning Commission first to allow public review. Mr. Culp stated that authorization for issues of concern could be obtained by the Planning Commission without public hearings. The Board took no action.

Mr. Little introduced Mr. Ron Book, Pennington Law Firm, who submitted a proposal for the position of Lobbyist. Mr. Book gave an overview of his firm's personnel and their extensive experience. Mr. Book stated that his firm represents more political entities than any other firm does. He explained the appropriations process and stated that they are the best in the business. Commissioner Rees questioned his experience to lobby at the federal level. Mr. Book stated that most of their experience is at the local and state level, not as much at the federal level. He advised that they have no other clients that would be in competition with Walton County. Discussion took place regarding the importance of economic development. Mr. Book explained that his firm pro-rates their expenses between all their clients and charge only for actual expenses. Mr. Book assured

the Commissioners that he would represent Walton County with aggressiveness and effectiveness.

After hearing the presentations of the top three ranked firms, the Commissioners agreed to prepare their ranking for selection of a lobbying firm. The following are their results.

Commissioner Pauls: 1) Pennington Law Firm, 2) Hefley & Associates, 3) Verner, Liiphert, Bernard

Commissioner Ryan: 1) Pennington Law Firm, 2) Hefley & Associates, 3) Verner, Liiphert, Bernard

Commissioner Jones: 1) Hefley & Associates, 2) Pennington Law Firm 3) Verner, Liiphert, Bernard

Commissioner Walker: 1) Hefley & Associates, 2) Pennington Law Firm 3) Verner, Liiphert, Bernard

Commissioner Rees: 1) Pennington Law Firm, 2) Hefley & Associates 3) Verner, Liiphert, Bernard

Mrs. Meg Stevenson questioned how these costs compared with those of Ms. Kassy Keyes and what benefits the county would receive from the change. The Commissioners responded that Ms. Keyes fees were higher due to expenses.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to allow Commissioner Rees along with county staff to negotiate with Pennington Law Firm to cap their yearly expense charges at \$5,000.00 per year. Contact the firm of Hefley & Associates if negotiations are unsuccessful with Pennington and place a maximum contract amount of \$60,000.00 for either firm. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Attorney Miller advised that he received the bills for the self-insured worker's compensation claims and requested Board approval of payments as recommended by

J.L.T. Consulting, representing Walton County. Mr. Miller gave an example of one claim that was reduced from \$27,885.00 to \$17,200.00 using the State schedule.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to allow Attorney Miller to write a letter stating that the county agrees to make payment in the amount of \$17,000.00 for self-insured worker's compensation claims according to the State schedule and allow him to negotiate and settle the remaining outstanding claims. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. These claims were for Jack Adkison, Jack Arnold, and Mr. Whited.

Attorney Miller advised that Treasure Island Marina has filed an appeal, as well as the TOPS'L Group. He also advised that the county has prevailed again at the District Court level regarding the Glory Brown case. They have appealed to the State Supreme Court.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve a request by Sheriff Johnson who is asking to use the lower east side basement area of the old hospital for storage. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Vice-Chairman Rees to approve for six county employees to attend the hurricane conference in May. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Mr. William Imfeld, Mr. Matt Douglass, two from Public Works, and two from Administration.

Ms. Williams presented the following list of items presented by the Clerk's Office for disposal:

CC#	Description	Original Cost
352	IBM Wheelwriter III Typewriter	\$ 600.00

427	Sharp Fax Machine SN 30100931	1,977.00
522	IBM 300 GL PC	1,835.00
535	IBM 300 GL PC	1,835.00

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to accept surplus equipment from the Clerk's Office for disposal. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Ms. Williams presented a records disposition request by Mrs. DeAnna Foreman of the Clerk's Office for destruction of certain records according to the records retention schedule. Ms. Ingle advised that they would be using county labor to transport the records to the Bay County Incinerator for the most cost effective method of destruction.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the records disposition request for destruction of records. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Jones to appoint Commissioner Ryan as a contact person regarding issues with Eglin AFB. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Vice-Chairman Rees requested that consideration be given for phone lines and computer lines to be installed when working to construct the District 1 Office. The Board agreed.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees to hold a public hearing to consider adopting a noise ordinance. Commissioner Pauls suggested presenting the three examples of noise ordinances to the Planning Commission for review because he feels this will be part of the Land Development Code and public input is needed. The Board agreed to allow them to review the issue first. Commissioner Rees' motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Ed Barry, representing Peach Creek Alliance, addressed the Board regarding Sykes Concrete and also presented a letter from Tyana Burton. He advised that Lamar Sykes is currently operating his concrete plant even though the Board denied his large-scale amendment. Mr. Barry encouraged the Board to adopt a noise ordinance that can be enforced. Commissioner Rees asked that the Planning Commission make this a priority in order to expedite this issue. Attorney Miller will work with the Planning Commission. Attorney Miller suggested inviting an Okaloosa County Code Officer to share his knowledge of the decibel method. Commissioner Pauls stated that we need a recommendation showing the cost of machinery and to assure that we have qualified, trained staff in order to enforce the ordinance. Mr. Jack Brown, Seagrove Beach, stated that there should be a time limit on any conclusive noise.

Commissioner Jones advised the Board that the committee working on the courthouse expansion has surveyed the constitutional officers and judges and detailed for them the proposed layout of the courthouse expansion for review. He stated that the current proposal seems to be adequate for their future needs. Mr. Jones spoke to Mr. Imfeld whom stated that several financing options are available and does not appear to be an obstacle.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve the concept as presented and proceed with the courthouse expansion with the understanding that they will meet with the constitutional officers, judicial personnel, and architects to determine the final layout and present their recommendation back to the Board for approval. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Commissioner Jones will facilitate the meetings.

Commissioner Ryan did not present any items for discussion.

Commissioner Pauls presented a report on the Beach Preservation Conference. He informed the Board that the budget for beach preservation has not been cut a large amount and stressed the importance of this project. A meeting will be held on March 1, 2001 and all Commissioners are invited to attend.

Commissioner Pauls presented information relating to the Scenic Highway Status showing who, throughout the state, is applying for the program. He also presented grant-funding information.

Commissioner Pauls presented a proposed agreement for the lease of office space located in District 5. Commissioner Pauls requested to go forward with a 2-year lease at \$14,000.00 per year contingent upon any changes to the agreement as recommended by Attorney Walker. This is to locate the Commissioners office in District 5 and to have a facility that is accessible to the public.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Vice-Chairman Rees to approve the 2-year lease in the amount of \$14,000.00 per year for office space for the District 5 Commissioners office located at Gulf Place. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Pauls presented a list of items that are in need of repairs at the Helen McCall Park for the Little League and stated that county staff does not have adequate time to make the repairs. Chairman Walker requested Ms. Williams review the items and obtain costs from a contractor to have the items repaired.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Jones to approve for Commissioner Pauls to advertise for bids for repairs work on two county maintained

beach walkovers and present back to the Board for final approval. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. (Dothan Avenue and Cassine Gardens).

The Commissioners agreed to postpone approval of the minutes for final review.

Attorney Walker presented a proposed ordinance regarding county employee insurance for married couples both working for the county. The proposal would allow both individuals who are receiving single coverage to combine their single coverage insurance and pay the difference for a family plan to provide coverage for their children for an approximate cost of \$16.00.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Jones to approve for married couples to combine their single-coverage insurance and pay the difference for a family plan through Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Attorney Walker advised that he along with Attorney Miller is attempting to set a meeting with Attorney Adkinson regarding the Inlet Beach Water System for an update.

Motion by Vice-Chairman Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to adopt the following mission statement “The Walton County Board of County Commissioners welcomes and encourages public participation at Commission meetings”. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Vice-Chairman Rees requested the MIS Department place the Board meeting agendas on the internet.

There being no further business Commissioner Jones motioned to adjourn at 10:45 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Herman L. Walker, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts