

JUNE 11, 2002 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 2002 at 4:00 p.m. at the Paxton High School.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Tim Pauls, Vice-Chairman Larry D. Jones, Commissioner Herman L. Walker, Chairman Lane Rees and Commissioner Gene Ryan. Mr. Michael Underwood, County Administrator, Attorney Gary Vorbeck, Director of Legal Services, and Ms. Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts, were also present.

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

Chairman Rees called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Walker recognized Mrs. Becky Young, retiring Family and Consumer Sciences Agent IV, for her dedication and years of service to the county. He spoke of his experience and participation in 4-H during his childhood and what opportunities he was offered because of the program. Commissioner Walker stated that Walton County has greatly benefited from Mrs. Young's dedicated service. Commissioner Walker presented Mrs. Young with a plaque on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.

Chairman Rees called to order the continued hearing for the Church Street Planned Unit Development. Mr. Jack Arthur advised that the Planning Department has reviewed the amended plans and has found them to be acceptable and ready for approval. Ms. Cindy Meadows, Planning Commission Chair person, also advised during the last

meeting that she feels sure that the Planning Commission would approve of the plan as changed.

Mr. Bill Bard stated that he has a home in the area and stated that he highly approves of the project, however, is concerned with the density. He therefore requested the developer to reduce the density to 6-7 units per acre.

Mr. John Lewis, Connelly Wicker, advised that the project was almost 8 units per acre and has been reduced to 7.4 units per acre.

Commissioner Pauls questioned how the storm water plan would be implemented for each individual lot. Mr. Lewis explained that most of the storm water system would be in swells systems before the lots are constructed, so most of the systems would be in place before the lots are sold. The developer will be the homebuilder, which should also help control it.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve the Church Street Planned Unit Development as recommended by staff and the Planning Commissioner. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Chairman Rees presented the consent agenda for approval. Commissioner Jones requested to remove number 8. In addition, he questioned number 6 regarding property location for the flood mitigation properties having a Vernon address. Mr. Imfeld agreed to check into this issue.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items; with the exception of number 6 and 8. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

the resale value was considered for the equipment. The commissioners voiced concern regarding the resale value for the Case equipment if purchased.

Further discussion was held regarding the need for the equipment and the location at which it would be used. Mr. Barry explained that they are being purchased for the new zones. The commissioners deferred this item for further review and will discuss at the next board meeting.

Mr. Imfeld advised that Mrs. Biddle stated that the properties in question on the consent agenda are both physically located in Walton County. (James Loturco and Gloria Bowers properties)

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the amendment to the Flood Mitigation Assistance Contract between Walton County and the Department of Community Affairs (item #6). Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Chairman Rees recognized the Mayor of Paxton, Mr. Hayward Thomas, who was present in the audience.

Commissioner Walker recognized the Paxton City Council and informed the members of the audience about a renovation project that was undertaken in the city. He explained that a grant was awarded and the project has been completed. He then presented Mr. Thomas with the keys to the building. Commissioner Walker further recommended that the building be named John E. Baldwin Agriculture Center. Mr. Bruce Ward gave an update on the renovations. A total of \$89,469.00 of the grant funds has been expended with \$60,531.00 remaining. Commissioner Walker commended Charles McMillian, Facilities Maintenance Director, for his effort in completing this project.

Mr. Barry presented a request from the City of Paxton for assistance in the removal of trees at the southwest corner of the city cemetery. The estimated cost is less than \$500.00 to the county and could be completed in approximately 4 hours. Mr. Barry recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Jones to approve to assist the City of Paxton with the removal of trees at the cemetery. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Barry updated the commissioners on the overall status of road paving for the year 2002. Approximately 23.4 miles of paving has been completed and another 21 miles should be completed by the end of June. Mr. Barry requested to restructure the Public Works budget to find necessary funding to continue the paving projects.

Mr. Imfeld advised that approval is needed because the change would affect the personnel line item, which requires approval from the board. He further explained that Mr. Barry has saved the county money by postponing some hirings and therefore has additional funds. Chairman Rees commented that Mr. Barry is under budget and is in need of reallocating his funds.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve to reallocate funds within the Public Works budget for road paving.

Commissioner Pauls stated that he is in favor of reallocating the funds and is also in favor of amending the budget to proceed with necessary paving project. Many roads have been engineered and prepared for paving and it would be costly to postpone the paving of those roads. Mr. Barry stated that he would keep the commissioners informed as to the availability of funds.

Chairman Rees called for a vote to approve the reallocation of funds. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Don Crim questioned Mr. Barry regarding the paving status of roads off of Woodyard Road. He said these roads have been prepared and are in need of paving. Mr. Barry explained that these are the test roads that will be used for the in-house paving test to determine in-house paving costs versus contracted prices.

Discussion followed regarding the original \$6 million dollars previously earmarked for paving of certain roads. Mr. Imfeld explained that those leftover funds are returned to the budget each year.

Mr. Barry updated the board on the survey of the mitigation property. The contract has been let and the survey is almost complete, which will be sent to EPA. He stated that this is the last item on their list before releasing the roads for paving.

Mr. Barry presented the renewal for the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement between the county and the Department of Transportation (DOT). DOT has agreed to reimburse the county for one half the maintenance costs on all traffic signals on highways that touch a state road, totaling \$2,672.88. Mr. Barry recommended approval as the county is required to maintain them.

Commissioner Walker stepped out.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve the Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement with DOT. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Lamar Sikes appeared before the board to discuss the dedication of Coochee Road to the county. He explained that he spoke to the commissioners in February 2000

and the board voted 5/0 in favor of relocating the road with the stipulation that the road be placed according to Mr. Ronnie Bell's direction, who was then Public Works Director, and built to county specifications. He also explained that he has been told to construct the road according to DOT specifications. However, there are not any DOT specifications for dirt roads.

Commissioner Walker questioned Mr. Sikes regarding the width of road he plans to dedicate. Mr. Sikes agreed to dedicate a minimum of 50' right-of-way according to the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that he will reconstruct the road with clay and will cover the expenses. He also stated that he would be willing to stabilize the surface. Commissioner Walker recalled previous discussion where Mr. Sikes requested to relocate the road at his expense. Both the roadway to be relocated and the new location are on Mr. Sikes' property, along with the right-of-way that he is deeding. Mr. Sikes agreed with Mr. Walker as to that previous discussion. They also agreed that no discussion took place regarding stabilizing the road.

Commissioner Ryan also commented that one other stipulation he recalls is that the new road would go all the way to the water. Mr. Sikes agreed to extend the road to the water. Commissioner Ryan stated that this would create an increase of the amount on traffic on that road and felt that a joint venture should be entered into between the county and Mr. Sikes to prevent future problems. The commissioners directed Mr. Barry to work with Mr. Sikes to draft an agreement to be presented back to the board.

Commissioner Walker announced that a \$200,000.00 recreational grant has been approved for the City of Paxton to improve their recreational facility.

Mr. Pat Markey, Parks and Recreation Director, explained that the grant was submitted and has now been accepted. The grant will be used to improve the ball fields, concession stands, parking, landscaping, and restroom facilities.

Mr. Markey also explained that a grant has been received for Alaqua Creek to develop a new swimming area and boat ramp. Another grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 will provide restrooms, playgrounds, and lighting.

Commissioner Pauls requested an update regarding signage in the bayous. Mr. Markey advised that he has been working on the issue and the Purchasing Department now has 25 no-wake signs to be put up.

Mr. William Pennington, Clerk Finance Director, updated the board on the status of the contract for audit services. The contract expired upon completion of the last audit. RFP's were issued and three accounting firms submitted bids. The Auditor Selection Committee met and unanimously nominated Carr, Riggs and Ingram for a two year period with an option for a third year.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve to award Carr, Riggs and Ingram with a contract in the amount of \$77,200.00 per year, before other services, for auditing services for a period of two years with a third year option. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Ronnie Bell, Emergency Response Director, appeared before the board with a recommendation to promote Mr. Edwin Baltzley, Emergency Management Coordinator, to the position of EOC Manager. This position is an existing position that has not been filled.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Walker to accept Mr. Bell's recommendation and promote Mr. Baltzley to the position of EOC Manager. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Chairman Rees announced that he met with the NW Florida Blood Center and presented each commissioner with information about their program.

Mr. Richard Fowlkes, President of the Blue Mountain Beach Community Association, appeared before the Board regarding neighborhood beach accesses in the Blue Mountain Beach Subdivision. He stated that the community has three accesses and the TDC says that access ways serve the primary residents and visitors. They support maintaining beach accesses; however, they ask that the commissioners take the following action:

1. Authorize the TDC to remove the emergency parking pads from the beach access improvement plan for the three accesses on Blue Mountain beach Road in the Blue Mountain Beach subdivision.
2. Authorize the TDC to work with the Blue Mountain Beach Community Association on the overall width of the beach access, including the width at which it is maintained.
3. Authorize the TDC to work with the Blue Mountain Beach Community Association on the necessity of a boardwalk and, if required, its width.

He stated that the Association objects to the components of the improvement plan. They do not support the position of the TDC that all beach accesses must be standardized. They feel it should show the character and the needs of the neighborhood. They are opposed to paved parking pads for emergency vehicles. Mr. Fowlkes stated that TDC has worked with the Association to reduce the amount of paved areas, but work has proceeded without agreement from the community. Mr. Fowlkes read several statements from

various emergency personnel who stated that paved parking pads would not improve safety response time.

Ms. Susan Lucas showed pictures of beach accesses and stated that there are currently no parking problems. Ms. Lucas stated that 118 signatures were obtained on a petition and 115 letters were written opposing the beach access improvement. She read letters from residents who requested the TDC reconsider the design of the accesses.

Ms. Linda Hildreth stated that the disagreement is with the plan because they do not feel the plans fit with the character of the neighborhood. She requested additional time to further discuss the issue with the TDC so that the residents can find a more agreeable design.

Ms. Nancy James, South Walton Community Council, stated that they discussed the issue of beach accesses and adopted a resolution regarding the issue. Their main concern is the insistence on uniformity. They feel each neighborhood should have a say in the design.

Mrs. Kris Titus, Executive Director of the South Walton Tourist Development Council, along with Tracy Howell, appeared before the board and presented information that was sent to the Blue Mt. Beach Association. Mrs. Titus presented pictures for several of the beach accesses in question. She explained that they did stop work on the Gulf Point neighborhood access upon request of the Blue Mt. Beach Association. She stated that the plans were changed to better accommodate the neighbors, which can be shown by the amount of change orders totaling \$8,228.80. Mrs. Titus read a statement by Les Hallman, Fire Chief for the South Walton Fire District, who is in favor of beach accesses in order to speed response time. Mrs. Titus also explained that concerns regarding the size of a

parking pad were addressed by reducing the size of the pad and the positioning was also changed. She also noted that tax revenues from tourist tax are used for beach walkover enhancements not public funds as claimed.

Commissioner Pauls commented that the Recreational Impact Fees would soon be used for this purpose. Furthermore, he stated that there is an adopted Recreation Plan that dictates how beach accesses are to be constructed. He stated that the plan needs to be followed or changed. Commissioner Pauls stated that he would like to see the beach access in question completed and then allow dialogue on the following two accesses that are awaiting construction, while considering if changes need to be implemented to the Recreation Plan.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to direct the Tourist Development Council to complete the beach access as designed at Blue Mountain Beach. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

The Commissioners recessed briefly.

Mrs. Kris Titus presented their new Travel Guide. She also informed the commissioners that American Shore and Beach Preservation Association has requested Brad Pickel to serve on their board. He has accepted the position and will be traveling to Washington D.C. periodically.

Mrs. Titus presented the county's logo for review by the commissioners. She stated that the logo incorporates the blue wave, the highest point in Florida and the pine tree to show the county's history. Chairman Rees thanked Mrs. Titus for her work in getting the logo. Commissioner Walker requested that "rows" be added to show the county's agricultural aspect.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Walker to accept the value of an identifiable county logo, accept the costs associated with the implementation of the county logo to be managed by a transitional period of time, and to accept the concept design as a simplistic line art, three color logo, including the change as recommended by Commissioner Walker. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Naye. Commissioner Ryan felt that the new design is not much different than the current design.

Chairman Rees called to order the advertised public hearing to consider final plat approvals.

Mrs. Jennifer Christensen, Planning Technician, presented the final plat for the first floor, Watercolor Town Center Homes South, Building M5 for approval. Staff recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to approve First Floor, Watercolor Town Center Homes South, Building M5 final plat for recording. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Christensen presented Second and Third Floors, Watercolor Town Center Homes South, Building M5 for final plat approval. Staff recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve Second and Third Floors, Watercolor Town Center Homes South, Building M5 final plat for recording. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Christensen presented the final plat for Seaside 15. She stated that this is part of their DRI and contains two new rights-of-way that will be maintained by Seaside. Staff recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the Seaside 15 final plat for recording. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Chairman Rees called to order the advertised public hearing to consider an ordinance amending the Walton County Land Development Code as it pertains to Scenic 98/331 Buffer Requirements, further defining US 98/331 Buffer Regulations; providing for authority, purpose, severability and effective date. Mr. Arthur explained that the ordinance changes the buffer requirement from 100' to 150'. Mr. David Kramer thanked the board for drafting the ordinance and stated that this will satisfy many future issues that arise.

There were no further public comments and the public hearing was closed. The second and final public hearing will be held on July 2, 2002.

Chairman Rees called to order the advertised public hearing to consider an ordinance modifying the Walton County Code and add fees for the local registration of certified and registered contractors and providing an effective date.

Mr. Arthur again explained the ordinance and the renewal process of contractor's licenses. There were no public comments regarding this ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to adopt an ordinance modifying the Walton County Code and add fees for the local registration of

certified and registered contractors and providing an effective date (2002-13). Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Pat Markey, Parks and Recreation Manager, requested approval of a Medical Release form. He explained that it is a generic form that would allow a coach or teacher to administer prescribed medications to the students who participate in Summer Camp, once signed by a parent. Commissioner Ryan voiced concern regarding who would administer the medication. Mr. Markey stated that a coach would administer the medication when another adult is present.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Walker to approve the Medical Release Form. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Markey presented information relating to the YMCA Blue Ridge Values Conference. He stated that Recreation Board has recommended approving expenditures in the amount of \$7,582.00 to send 10 participants to the conference being held in Black Mountain, North Carolina.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to approve expenditures in the amount of \$7,582.00 for the participants attending the YMCA Blue Ridge Values Conference. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Nye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Markey also presented information relating to an overnight summer camp for Walton County at Camp Timpooshee. Camp would be from August 2-4, 2002 for ages 8-14. The total cost for the entire camp would be approximately \$11,000.00, which would be for 95-100 students. The Recreation Board recommended approval. He also advised

that Mr. Gus Andrews, who serves on the Board, recommended looking into using county owned facilities for future recreational purposes.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve expenditures in the amount of \$11,000.00 to provide overnight summer camp to area youth. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Chairman Rees announced that Mr. Billy Buzzett has resigned his position from the Recreation Board and therefore recommended Mr. Jeff Infinger. Jeff is not related to the Mr. Infinger who already serves on the board.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Jones to approve Mr. Jeff Infinger's appointment to the Recreation Board. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Walker requested the Recreation Board sign off on their recommendations prior to presenting them to the commissioners.

Mr. Arthur presented the nominations for the Contractors Competency Board. Chairman Rees read the resumes for each individual who applied.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Jones to appoint Mr. Thomas Lassiter to the Contractor Competency Board, General classification. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to appoint Mr. David White to the Contractor Competency Board, Building classification. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Jones to appoint Mr. Kevin Smith the Contractor Competency Board, Residential classification. Ayes 5, Nayes 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Pauls to appoint Mr. Victor Bowman to the Code Enforcement Board.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to appoint Ms. Sally Merrifield to temporarily serve on the Planning Board until someone can be appointed to permanently fill the vacancy left by Mr. Bob Littleton. Ayes 5, Nayes 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Chairman Rees called to order the advertised public hearing to consider an ordinance providing for an amendment to ordinance 94-16 which provided for the levy of the Small County Surtax; providing for using funds for economic development incentives and infrastructure; providing for uses that have a public purpose; providing for additional uses for funds; providing an effective date.

Chairman Rees opened the floor for public comment. Being none the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Walker to adopt an ordinance (2002-12), Small County Surtax. Ayes 5, Nayes 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Randy Webster, Three Rivers Housing Foundation, Inc., appeared before the board and presented a resolution certifying the Three Rivers Housing Foundation Program for the construction of single-family home ownership housing for low income families, which is consistent with local plans and regulations. He explained that the

resolution would give Three Rivers the Board's support to apply for funding for housing. The commissioner questioned Mr. Webster regarding any possible conflicts with the program being run by Escambia County Housing Authority. Mr. Webster stated that these were different programs. Commissioner Walker requested that staff review this further before making a decision. Chairman Rees agreed and requested this issue be presented again on June 21 for further discussion.

Ms. Nancy James, South Walton Community Council, presented a resolution pertaining to the wetlands. She stated that wetlands regulations are a big problem in Walton County. They are proposing a Walton Wetlands Project as outlined in the resolution. They would like to see widespread participation by all stakeholders on how wetlands are regulated. A workshop has been planned for June 24 along with facilitators from Tallahassee and will be open to the public. She stated that the desired outcome would be a large-scale amendment to the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Jack Rhodes, representing Big Cat Investments and Smith Development LLC, read a letter into the record asking to remove this issue from the agenda because of inadequate advertisement. Mr. Vorbeck advised the commissioners that they could continue.

Attorney Lloyd Blue appeared before the board on behalf of himself and the Walton County Properties Association. He stated that he concurs with Ms. James for the need to hold a workshop, but voiced concern with the process. Mr. Blue presented a copy of the same resolution outlining some recommended changes. He stated that Growth Management should be involved to insure fair participation by all interested parties. Mr. Blue asked that if the board adopts the resolution that they adopt the one with his

modifications allowing the Growth Management Division to be in charge of conducting the workshops. He also stated that he is equally willing to give \$10,000.00 to bring in experts to help participate in a workshop. They do not agree with the SWCC being in charge of the workshops.

Mr. Arthur agreed to participate with SWCC as a means to move forward. He stated that he respects both sides, but does not want to be involved. He explained that the SWCC applied for and received a grant from the 1000 Friends of Florida and invited Growth Management to participate.

Mr. Richard Veldman, Rivard Realty, stated that the constituents look to the commissioners for guidance and want the board to be in charge of the workshops. He also requested that consideration be given to the time and place when scheduling the workshops to enable the public to attend.

Mr. Russ Aldrich, representing the Building Industry Association, stated that they would like to participate in the process.

Mr. Bob Dobies, property owner, thanked the participants for their funding and Ms. James for notifying everyone of the meeting tonight. He also requested the county oversee the process.

Attorney Dana Matthews addressed the board regarding the scope that this process would entail. He also questioned the board if they were going to become involved with regulating wetland. He also spoke about the SWCC's agenda.

Commissioner Walker questioned how the funds would be spent. He stated that he would like to see the funds used to solve the problem and not specifically designated for how it would be spent.

Ms. Shirl Williams, Assistant County Administrator, advised that notice of this meeting has been properly advertised.

Mr. Blue stated how he felt the money should be spent. He also stated that it is his preference to have Growth Management handle the project to determine how to bring people into the process.

Commissioner Ryan stated that Growth Management should be one to conduct the workshops and allow input from various individuals and groups. Commissioner Jones agreed that the county should be the leader. A clear understanding is needed of what is being presented. Chairman Rees questioned if additional people are wanting to participate and would the SWCC be comfortable with allowing the county to oversee the process.

Ms. James stated that their goal was to achieve wide participation and that they could partner with several others. She stated that a facilitator has been lined up and they would like to proceed with the workshop. She stated that after the workshop discussion would then go into a workgroup mode.

Commissioner Pauls supports the need for this and has proposed wording changes. He stated that there are also property owners who are interested along with developers. The purpose is to clarify policy and how to administer it. He stated that he supports the SWCC's objective in bringing this to the table and felt that it would be beneficial for the county to oversee the process.

Mr. Jay Odom agreed with Commissioner Pauls and stated that it does involve property rights and is a countywide issue. People need to be involved and the county needs to be in charge.

Mr. Blue stated that he would work in coordination with the county, but wants Growth Management to be in charge.

Chairman Rees asked Mr. Arthur to be in charge of overseeing this process.

Mr. Rhodes stated that he respects the county's decision but has concerns with procedures. He stated that one would normally look to Planning for these issues. He stated that the county needs due process and proper public hearings.

Mr. David Kramer addressed the board and suggested that Growth Management be given additional time for proper planning and to get people involved. He commented that the Fish and Wildlife would soon be involved in the county's wetlands issues.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Pauls to direct Mr. Jack Arthur to take charge of the workshop scheduled for June 24, 2002. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Details need to be worked out regarding who will pay the costs. Mr. Arthur agreed to oversee the workshops.

The commissioners recessed briefly.

Attorney Gary Vorbeck, Director of Legal Services, informed the board that the Sheriff has made a public records request for documentation from the Jail Committee's meetings.

Mr. Vorbeck requested approval for Karen Sheehan to be paid overtime when needed. He explained that she is needed to work overtime at various times and he needs authorization to pay her overtime pay.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve for Legal Services to pay overtime to non-exempt employees in their department when

authorized by Mr. Vorbeck. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Attorney Vorbeck presented information regarding the Houston Pittman vs. Walton County case. This case is an appeal of a previous variance. Mr. Vorbeck requested authority to turn the case over to Attorney Theriaque. Mr. Vorbeck explained that the Board of Adjustments granted a variance and it was stated that no notice was given and the variance is invalid.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to retain Attorney David A. Theriaque to handle this case. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Mike Underwood, County Administrator, presented the results of the RFQ's for Construction Manager for renovations of the old hospital. A committee ranked the RFQ's as follows, beginning with number one: Watkins Engineers, Peter Brown, Biltmore, Lord & Sons. Commissioner Walker wanted assurance that if this contract is awarded to Watkins, that it would not be overloading them making them enable to perform. He also stated that they would be able to begin immediately.

Mr. Brian Kellenberger, Watkins Engineers, appeared before the board and thanked them for the opportunity to perform more work for the county. He stated that there would not be any problem because of the strength of his company and their available manpower.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve Watkins Engineers as the Construction Manager for renovations of the old Walton

County Hospital. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Jones reminded the board that the Sheriff's Department study from Cody & Associates has been completed and needs to be reviewed. Chairman Rees advised that a subcommittee is presently looking at that and Mr. Mattison is working with Cody & Associates.

Ms. Ingle questioned the status of the abatement removal at the old hospital. Mr. Underwood advised that the proposal would be awarded on June 21, 2002.

Commissioner Pauls reiterated his request to facilitate director reports being presented before the board. Directors will be present at the June 21st meeting.

Chairman Rees opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Don Crim commented on the 730-acre parcel of property located near the landfill. He stated that if purchased, it could be used for mitigation property and would be less costly than property is currently being purchased for. He stated that the property is still available and felt that it should be purchased. Chairman Rees asked that Mr. Barry look into this issue and make a determination as to what portion of the property could be used for mitigation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Lane Rees, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Court