

SEPTEMBER 24, 2002 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board members were present: Lane Rees, Chair, Larry D. Jones, Vice-Chair, Commissioner Tim Pauls, Commissioner Herman L. Walker, 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 Pauls led with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Commissioner Rees called the meeting to order.

Mr. Matt Douglas, Emergency Medical Services, appeared before the Commissioners along with Mr. Chuck Beamon and Mr. Phil Williams from the State EMS Office to present the county with a check in the amount of \$105,470. The grant funds will be used for the new ambulance station in Mossy Head.

Mr. Beamon and Mr. Williams presented the county with a check in the amount of \$105,470 from the State's EMS Services Matching Grant Trust Funds on behalf of Governor Bush.

Commissioner Rees presented the consent agenda consisting of the following items.

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| 1. EAL Approval | |
| General Fund | 506,198.24 |

County Transportation Fund	505,178.25
SHIP	8,478.32
North Walton Mosquito Control	5,829.70
Walton County Library	35,449.76
Recreation Plat Fee	428.67
Solid Waste Enterprise	183,234.89
Mossy Head VFD	2,022.22
Darlington VFD	2,154.92
Liberty VFD	854.82
Local Option Gas Tax	2,750.00
Section 8 Housing	23,203.77
Tourist Development Council	251,981.09
Fine & Forfeiture	112,426.69
Red Bay VFD	948.65
Glendale VFD	259.25
Capital Projects Fund	227,822.46

2. Approve Minutes: Sept. 3 2002: Land Use Meeting
Sept. 3, 2002: Special BCC Meeting
3. Resolution to Accept Insurance Reimbursement
4. Approval to Surplus Equipment
5. Approval to Dispose of Records

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Walker to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. William Imfeld, Financial Director, appeared before the Board requesting that the Board approve the transfer of funds from Contingencies to the BCC account to pay for furniture for the GEC Center in the amount of \$325,000. This amount will be removed from the 2002/03 budget.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve the budget transfer in the amount of \$325,000. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Imfeld advised that four of the volunteer fire departments have received Forestry Grants and requested the Board adopt a resolution amending the funds into the

budget as follows: Liberty VFD - \$2,340; Mossy Head VFD - \$5,972; Glendale - \$3,311; and Darlington/Gaskin - \$4,177.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to adopt a resolution (2002-48) amending the funds into the budget as stated. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Imfeld advised the Board that the furniture is currently being installed at the GEC Center. Mr. Dan Trotman is working on the telecommunication issues.

Commissioner Walker questioned Mr. Imfeld regarding the purchase of the 730 acres near the present landfill. Mr. Imfeld stated that it was his understanding that the issue regarding the purchase was to be researched. Mr. Barry stated that he had spoken with the owners to determine if the property was still for sale. He stated that the owner is offering the property for sale at a cost of \$1,050 per acre. This price is higher, but they previously wanted to retain the timber rights. Commissioner Walker stated that he would not support the higher price. Mr. Don Crim stated that the price is less than property recently purchased in the south end of the county, which will be used for the same purpose. Mr. Barry stated that a counter offer has not been made. He also stated that the property is to be sold as is. Commissioner Ryan agreed that the property would be good for mitigation purposes. Commissioner Pauls stated that a determination needs to be made as to what area this property would serve for mitigation if purchased. Commissioner Jones asked how much of the 730 acres is wetland. Mr. Barry stated that he would provide that information before the next meeting. He further stated that an environmental assessment has been performed showing the wetlands, uplands, and areas that could be used for future landfill.

Commissioner Ryan stated that the MPO, now TPO, met to discuss the gas tax. They agreed to forward a recommendation that Okaloosa County adopt a three-cent increase to their gas tax and that Walton County adopt a one-cent increase giving parity across the counties. The TPO will research it further. One-cent would add just under \$400,000 for Walton County, which Commissioner Ryan feels is not enough to add the increase. Mr. Ryan further stated that there will be future projects coming that would require funding. This may be an alternative to cover a bond issue. Commissioner Walker stated that he would be in favor of Okaloosa County coming into parity with Walton County, but does not support an increase in Walton County. Commissioner Pauls commented on the unfairness of various counties using funds from the MPO to support their projects because some counties having a lower gas tax therefore using more of the MPO's monies than other counties. He agreed that there should be parity between the counties.

Mr. Russ Barry, Public Works Director, presented information relating to the RFQ's he received for continuing engineering services. The firms were selected based upon their proposals and an evaluation by Mr. Arner, County Engineer, Mr. Jack Arthur, Growth Management Director, and Mr. Barry. Mr. Barry requested the Board to allow Public Works and Purchasing to negotiate billing rates with the following firms, using the Continuing Services Agreement approved by Legal Services. Each of the firms will be used according to their firm's expertise on an as needed basis.

CIVIL/GENERAL ENGINEERING: Hartman and Associates, Inc.; Jones, Edmunds & Associates; Preble-Rish, Inc.; Genesis Group.

GEO-TECHNICAL ENGINEERING: Hartman and Associates, Inc.; Southern Earth Sciences.

SURVEYING SERVICES: Allen Nobels and Associates; Southeastern Surveying & Mapping; Weidner Surveying & Mapping; Baskerville-Donovan.

ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES: McCall & Associates; CarlanKillam Consulting.

ENVIRONMENTAL: Bosso, Dentzau, & Imhof; Southern Earth Sciences; Preble-Rish; Baskerville-Donovan.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve the recommendation to negotiate with the above named firms. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Discussion was held regarding the competitive bidding process. Mr. Vorbeck explained the process and stated that Mr. Barry will negotiate with one firm at a time for a project until he is satisfied with the price. He advised that they must adhere to F.S. 287.055.

Mr. Barry gave an update on the cease and desist orders that have been lifted by the EPA. As a condition of the order, two permits have to be obtained for each road for past action and future action. The permits have been submitted to Mr. Rick Holden who stated that he would expedite them. Mr. Barry stated that when he receives them, he would like to begin with Thompson Road and J.D. Miller Road.

Mr. Barry stated that they are approximately 90% complete with the entire landfill remediation project. He invited the commissioners to visit the site.

Mr. Barry informed the Board that the in-house paving crew has completed five roads and will be paving Hideaway Bay Drive this week. He stated that if the permits are not received for Thompson Road and J.D. Miller Road then they would begin on Davidson Road. Commissioner Rees asked for a listing of all roads paved during the 2001/02-budget year.

Mr. Barry advised the commissioners that they would soon begin using the traffic counters at Rosemary Beach to determine whether these intersections require a 4-way or

2-way stop. Commissioner Walker reminded Mr. Barry that Preble-Rish previously performed a traffic study on this area. Mr. Bell stated that the previous recommendation was to remove the stop signs; however, no action was taken. Commissioner Ryan stated that he feels CR 30A and the roads in that areas are not comparable to the conditions the ASHTO Standards were based upon. He questioned if any action would be taken to assist pedestrian traffic across the road. Commissioner Pauls stated that the Corridor Advocacy Group has been looking at standardization of pedestrian crosswalks. He is hopeful that the solution at Rosemary Beach can be a pedestrian activated stoplight. Mr. Ryan asked if such a recommendation would come from this upcoming study. Mr. Barry stated that they would make a recommendation back to the Board based on data from the study. Mr. Ryan stated that he would like to see more of a recommendation than to either leave the 4-way stop signs or remove them. Commissioner Pauls commented that the challenge comes from the amount of growth. Mr. Barry will present further information at the next meeting. (Tape 1/side 2) Mr. Barry reviewed the 2003 Road Paving Schedule and costs to determine if it would be possible to work CR 3280 into the schedule as previously requested by the Board. Mr. Barry presented a complete listing of the roads currently on the schedule, whether they are to be contracted out or paved in-house.

Mr. Barry presented the following four options for completing the paving projects for 2003. Option 1 is viable if the board desires to continue paving using a combination of both in-house and contract personnel and Public Works contracts the rebuild of CR 3280. It will require the deferment of paving on a group of roads that are in better condition than CR 3280 until budget year 2003/04. Option 2 is viable if the Board agrees to allow Public Works to complete all paving in-house and contracts the rebuild of CR

3280. Option 3 is not viable without major rework of the county budget. Public Works does not have sufficient funds to shift more money into the road budget. Option 4 is not viable, as CR 3280 has deteriorated to the point where it requires a major rebuilding to restore it to a safe road. Mr. Barry recommended either option 1 or 2 and provides guidance to Public Works as to the priorities for paving roads in Walton County during FY 2003.

Commissioner Rees agreed that he would support option 1 or option 2. Commissioner Pauls recommended option 1. He voiced the need to pave all roads within an area thus preventing the need to transport equipment to a particular area to grade one road. Commissioner Walker spoke about the roads in District 2 that also need to be paved and the original million dollars that was set aside for each district. Commissioner Jones agreed with Mr. Walker, but felt that there has been progress.

Mr. Don Crim questioned the option of having White Construction repair the road. Mr. Vorbeck stated that the agreement requires White Construction to maintain it, but not to reconstruct the road. The road has to be reconstructed by the County and White is to cap it. Commissioner Ryan supports the reconstruction of CR 3280, but does not want to throw out the 2003 paving schedule in order to do so.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan to accept option 2 based on the cost saving factors. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion for further discussion. He stated that consideration needs to be given that if there is a savings from the in-house paving that those funds could be applied to contracted jobs remaining on schedule. Commissioner Ryan agreed that Public Works needs the flexibility to make necessary adjustments.

Commissioner Walker stated that he would like to continue leasing the paving equipment until a determination can be made if it is saving the county money.

Ms. Sharon Vaughn questioned why White Construction is not responsible. Attorney Vorbeck explained that White's responsibility is to perform maintenance on the road, not reconstruction. Commissioner Rees stated that they agree that the road needs to be fixed, and then they will address the contract with White.

Commissioner Jones amended the motion to accept option 2 providing Mr. Barry with the opportunity to come back before the Board with any necessary changes. Second by Commissioner Ryan. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Pauls stated that a lesson should be learned from this issue regarding how the county will allow the roads to be used. He stated that there are no weight limits on county roads and policies need to be set.

Mr. Barry presented an update on the following issues. He advised the Board that he is currently working with the Soil Conservation District regarding the Herring property. They are in the process of drafting a plan. Mr. Barry stated that he would be submitting the Community Center Policy for review. Mr. Barry advised that he has only received one written quote for the removal of the South Walton Courthouse Annex trailers and is attempting to locate others as well. Commissioner Pauls questioned Mr. Barry about the right-of-way policy. Mr. Barry stated that he would also be submitting this to the commissioners today for review.

Mr. Crim questioned Mr. Barry regarding the State's progress on the extension of U.S. Highway 331 from Highway 20 to Owl's Head. Mr. Barry stated that the State is at 60% completion of the design

Mr. Ronnie Bell, Emergency Response Director, presented a copy of the Joint Funding Agreement between the U.S. Department of the Interior and Walton County for the hydrologic data collection on the Choctawhatchee River near Bruce and the Shoal River near Mossy Head. This is a renewal and the funds are in the EM Trust Budget for this expenditure. Mr. Bell recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to accept the recommendation and approve the renewal of the Joint Funding Agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell also presented the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Base Grant between the county and the Department of Community Affairs for FY 2002/03. This grant helps fund the Emergency Management Program. Mr. Bell recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to accept Mr. Bell's recommendation and approve the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance Base Grant with the Department of Community Affairs. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell presented a request on behalf of the Red Bay Volunteer Fire Department which is asking approval to roll forward \$24,822 for the construction of its newly proposed building. Mr. Imfeld stated that he agreed and the monies would roll-forward as

of October 1, 2002 for the upcoming budget. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Bell stated that he and Attorney Vorbeck have reviewed the interlocal agreement with the City of Paxton regarding animal control services. Mr. Bell met with the Mayor of Paxton regarding the ordinance they adopted, which is significantly different from the county's Animal Control Ordinance. This issue is under review and will be brought back to the Board at a later date. Commissioner Ryan questioned how this contract with Paxton, or any contract with another municipality, would be affected if animal control services were brought back in-house. Mr. Bell stated that the agreements would have to be amended.

Mr. Bell presented a brief update on his division activities. He stated that Animal Control received 260 calls. Of the 152 animals picked up, 10 animals were returned to their owners and 18 were adopted out. Mr. Bell advised that four additional people have completed Animal Control School and they now have a total of eight Certified Animal Control Officers. The City of Paxton also has four individuals who are now certified and can also be utilized. Mr. Bell also presented a report on 911, EMS, Fire Departments and Air Heart. Commissioner Rees asked for a report on the location of where those animals are being picked up. Mr. Bell gave the monthly percentage of animals being returned or adopted from Animal Control Services and stated that the problem in returning pets to their owners is the lack of identification on the animals. Commissioner Walker commented on the success of the current operations. He stated that the county is operating for less money, they are operating under a veterinarian, and the animals are available for adoption. Commissioner Ryan questioned the number of E-911 Calls and

how many of them relate to domestic violence. Mr. Bell stated that the Sheriff's Department would keep track of those numbers.

Mr. Ken Little, Citizens Service Director, presented the Core Contract with the Florida Department of Health. He stated that the Board contracts with the Florida Department of Health for County Health Department services each year. The proposed contract is for FY 2002/03. Mr. Little recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Jones to approve for the Chair to sign the contract with the Florida Department of Health. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Little presented a request for the Chair's signature on the State Aid to Libraries Grant. The documentation certifies that the Library Administrative Head, Mr. Dan Owens, has received proper certification.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve the Chair's signature on the FY2002/03 State Aid to Libraries Grant Application in the amount of \$463,837.77. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. (Tape 2)

Mr. Little stated that the Library Services Technology Act Grant (LSTAG) is currently being reviewed. The Stated has authorized a 60-day extension to allow for completion of the project. Mr. Little asked for the Chair's signature on the 60-day extension.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones authorizing the Chair's signature on LSTAG extending the grant for 60-days. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Little presented an updated handout on county owned properties. Commissioner Walker asked that the soil maps be included in the booklets.

Mr. Little also presented a listing of committee members and a list of volunteers who are willing to serve on various committees.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, Second by Commissioner Walker to transfer Mr. Rob Neale from the Planning Commissioner to the Variance Board and transfer Mr. Tom Terrell from the Variance Board to the Planning Commissioner Board beginning November 1, 2002, extending their time of service to a full term. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Walker noted that his appointment to the FACT Board of Directors position would expire in November.

Mr. Little advised that the Occupational License Study Committee has met and has drafted an ordinance that will be presented at the next meeting.

Mr. Little advised that advertisements for RFP's for the single-family bond program have been let. He also sent notification to all of the county housing authorities in the state.

Commissioner Rees commended Mr. Little for his work, along with the Clerk's staff, on the listing being compiled for all of the constitutional officers from the past. Commissioner Rees stated that his objective in compiling the information is to provide record of those individuals who have served.

Mr. Underwood stated that Representative Melvin has contacted Bob Walker with 4-H in reference to Camp Timpooshee. He stated that there is an opportunity to apply for a \$2.8 million grant from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

to fund new construction projects and agricultural, education, and promotional facilities. Mr. Bob Walker was present to request the Board's endorsement allowing them to apply for the grant.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the Chair's signature endorsing the application for grant funding from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Commissioner Walker left the meeting.

Mr. Gary Mattison, Human Resources Director, presented revisions to Policy 20: Grievance Procedures, and Policy 18: Disciplinary Actions, for review.

Mr. Mattison presented information relating to the renewal of Blue Cross/Blue Shield health plan for employees. The increase amounts to an additional \$67.60 per month for those using the family plan. The Board pays the employee portion. He stated that utilization of the HMO Plan can have an impact and there have also been more serious claims this year. Mr. Mattison stated that HR would be looking at a specialized plan for Walton County employees. Mr. Mattison recommended accepting the proposal consisting of a 24% increase and begin working on a new proposal.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the recommendation and approve the proposal from Blue Cross/Blue Shield with the 24% increase. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Pauls questioned what could be done to better the county's loss experience. Mr. Greg Wise, Blue Cross/Blue Shield representatives, stated that the reason for the increase is partially due to the large amount of past claims. He stated that there are seven claims over \$50,000 and three claims over \$300,000.

Mr. Mattison advised the Board that after the final audit of the Worker's Compensation Insurance, the final premium for 2001 will be \$672,842. The expected amount was \$369,775.79. Mr. Mattison explained that the Sheriff's Worker's Compensation Insurance was broken out and placed under the Sheriff's Association for a lower rate. This was a large amount of the high potential claims. An alternative would be to use a straight carrier or to use a self-insured third party administrator. Human Resource recommended using a carrier for this upcoming year until a Comprehensive Risk Management Program can be put in place. This plan would use comprehensive safety and employee education programs. Mr. Mattison presented the two low bids for worker's compensation insurance: Florida League of Cities - \$740,855 and Preferred Governmental Insurance Trust - \$575,891 in addition to the Sheriff's premium in the amount of \$342,250. (Tape 2/side 2) Commissioner Jones questioned if any claims would be brought to closure. Mr. Mattison advised that there are some; however, there are still claims that exist from the past.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to accept the recommendation and approve the low bid presented by Preferred Governmental Insurance Trust in the amount of \$575,891 for worker's compensation insurance. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Mattison requested to table item five regarding salary adjustments. Item six, regarding revised position titles, is for review. Mr. Mattison requested authorization to provide back pay for an employee, Linda Daughtery, in the amount of approximately \$13,000. Legal staff recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve back pay to Linda Daughtery in the amount of \$13,000. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Rees spoke about the need to have a strategic exercise to develop specific, measurable goals for the county. These goals will help give the division heads direction. Mr. Underwood stated that they discussed this in their staff meeting and are awaiting the names of facilitators for a strategic planning session when the new commissioners arrive.

Commissioner Pauls questioned if there is a method for evaluating in-house versus contracted tasks regarding worker's compensation, such as in-house paving crews. Mr. Underwood stated that the estimates received on that were very high. Commissioner Pauls commented that it might appear that there is a cost savings; however, if the insurance costs more then the county may not be saving any by using in-house paving crews. The costs are just being shifted. Commissioner Ryan stated that one factor to consider with in-house paving is control. Roads can be paved on the county's time without delays of a contractor or without having to spend additional personnel costs in repairing roads before they can be paved.

Attorney Vorbeck introduced Mr. Kenneth Gummels, Owner/Operator of the Walton County Convalescent Center. Mr. Vorbeck advised that the county previously helped the Convalescent Center with some bond issues and the Walton County Board of County Commissioners became the Board of Directors. The annual financial reports for the convalescent center are due and require the Board's signature.

Mr. Gummels spoke to the commissioners about how they handle their worker's compensation insurance, stating that they are now self-insured. Mr. Gummels further explained that when the nursing homes was constructed in 1976 they used the Federal Regulation 103B. This required beneficial interest by a public body and the sponsorship of a not-for-profit corporation. With the county's sponsorship, the bonds were issued with a tax-exempt status giving him ability to market the bonds to pay for the development. The not-for-profit organization must be kept alive for the duration of the bonds, which is 30-years. The bonds will be paid off in 2009. Mr. Gummels is requesting the Board's signature on the annual Corporate Return to the State because the Commissioner's are considered the Board of Directors. He further explained that they have a family council appointed by other Board members.

Commissioner Jones questioned why it is required that the Walton County Board of County Commissioners sits as the Board of Directors. Mr. Gummels explained that the original commissioners elected to serve as board members since the beginning of the bonds. Mr. Gummels stated that there is a community based Board who volunteer at the facility to assure that quality service is being provided. The Commissioners voiced concern with serving as the Board of Directors. They asked Mr. Gummels to speak with his Bond Counsel regarding appointing a different Board of Directors. This issue was deferred until the next meeting on October 8, 2002.

Mr. Vorbeck explained that several commissioners have voiced their desire to develop a parking ordinance. Ms. Kira Honse, Staff Attorney, stated that she has been approached by the Sheriff and Code Enforcement regarding concerns with parking issues. She questioned direction from the Board regarding drafting a broad based ordinance to

address parking violations. Commissioner Pauls asked if she has reviewed the Right-of-way Policy. He further stated that it is important to address the issue and that if signs are posted then an ordinance needs to be cited allowing the county to tow vehicles. He felt that this issue could be incorporated into the right-of-way policy and would like to review the policy before drafting an ordinance. (Tape 3)

Attorney Vorbeck requested the Board adopt a policy stating that staff will not draft ordinances until it is brought before the Board and they are directed to proceed. He stated that this could prevent the Board from finding out about ordinances after it has been advertised.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to adopt a policy stating that staff will not draft ordinances until it is brought before the Board and they are directed to proceed. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Attorney Vorbeck requested direction from the Board on behalf of Mr. Eric Zwerling regarding the noise ordinance. After brief discussion, the Board said to wait for further direction. Commissioner Pauls stated that data has been collected and the enforcement aspect needs to be considered as to who will enforce it. He stated that discussion should occur with the Sheriff regarding enforcement. Commissioner Jones stated that if the ordinance is too broad then it would be harder to enforce. The Board directed Mr. Underwood to speak with the Sheriff about the enforcement of the noise ordinance.

Dr. Chuck Stevenson appeared before the commissioners on behalf of the Recreation Board. Dr. Stevenson requested the Board roll their funds over to the next budget in the amount of \$9,500 to allow them to proceed with their programs.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve to roll forward \$9,500 into the upcoming budget. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Commissioner Imfeld agreed

Dr. Stevenson also requested to transfer \$154.00 from Salaries to the Summer Recreation Expense Account to pay the YMCA for the soccer pre-season clinics.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the transfer of \$154.00 to the Recreation Expense Account. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Pauls announced that the RFQ's for consultants to address the Land Development Code inconsistencies have been advertised.

The commissioners recessed until 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Rees called the meeting back to order. Commissioner Walker was not present.

Mr. Granger Bruner addressed the commissioners requesting that certain properties owned by the county be declared surplus and sealed bids accepted. The commissioners stated that they would like to familiarize themselves with each of the properties in question before taking action.

Ms. Kris Titus, Executive Director of the South Walton Tourist Development Council, presented the TDC Cleaning Contract for approval. United States Service Industries, Inc. submitted the low bid in the amount of \$850.00 per month.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Pauls to award the bid for the TDC Cleaning Services to United Sates Service Industries, Inc., low bid, in the

amount of \$850.00 per month. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Titus presented the National Public Relations Agency Contract for approval. She advised that they accepted RFQ's to hire a firm to perform national public relations for the national magazines for both consumer and trade aspects. The contract is not to exceed \$75,000 per year.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve the contract with National Public Relations Agency for public relation services not to exceed \$75,000 annually. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Titus requested approval to advertise for RFQ's for consulting services for the Federal Shore and Protection process for federal funding assistance. Mrs. Titus stated that in the event of a category 2 hurricane the beach could receive major damage and we would need assistance. She stated that she would like for this to be handled separately from the County's lobbying services.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve for the TDC to proceed with the RFQ process. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Titus gave an update on the Wayfindinging/Streetscape Program. She stated that the committee met and the information has been submitted to the Scenic Corridor Committee, Design Review Board, and the Planning Commission. She requested approval to move forward with the site strategy plan for the placement of signs. Further recommendations will be made and presented for approval. Commissioner Rees stated

that he is well pleased with TDC's direction. Mrs. Titus showed pictures of the new designs for signage.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to direct TDC staff to continue on the Wayfinding Program and strategic site plan. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Pauls stated that he met with Mr. Marvin Collier and Brian Kellenberger and the gentlemen with the Wayfinding system regarding the signage for the GEC Center. He advised that they will be compiling information and will present it back to the Board at a later date.

Commissioner Jones stated that the Board previously considered discontinuing the \$500,000 per year going into the Landfill account for future land purchases. He requested the \$500,000 per year now be directed into an Economic Development Fund for infrastructure for incentives and marketing. The Landfill account currently has \$1.5 million for the purchase of future landfill properties.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to discontinue the \$500,000 from going into the Landfill/future land purchases account. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to redirect \$500,000 annually from the one-cent sales tax into an Economic Development Account for infrastructure and marketing. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. These funds are not site specific; however, Commissioner Ryan thought that the funds might need to become site specific at some point in time to focus on the Mossy Head Industrial Park.

Commissioner Rees called to order the public hearing to consider adoption of the final plat.

Mrs. Jennifer Christensen, Planning Technician, presented the Cinnamon Fern at Watercolor Final Plat for approval. The plat is a 40 lot single-family subdivision located west of CR 395. Staff recommended approval. There were no public comments voiced.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to accept staff's recommendation and approve Cinnamon Fern final plat for recording. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Christensen presented Mere Ridge at Watercolor final plat for approval. St. Joe Company is developing a 21-lot single family residential subdivision located west of CR 395. Staff recommended approval. There were no public comments voiced.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to accept staff's recommendation and approve Mere Ridge final plat for recording. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Christensen presented Eastern Cove at Watercolor final plat for approval. St. Joe Company is developing a 52-lot single family residential subdivision located west of CR 395. Staff recommended approval. There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to accept staff's recommendation and approve Eastern Cove at Watercolor final plat for recording. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Dewey Wilson, President and General Manager of Regional Utilities, appeared before the commissioners stating that he previously requested to surplus some lands that are no longer being used for water wells due to salt water intrusion. These

lands have been bid out and appraisals received. One of the properties is located on Camp Creek Road and one at Seabreeze. Four bids were received with the high bid for the Seabreeze parcel totaling \$111,000, which exceeded the appraisal amount. The Camp Creek lot bid amount was \$40,100, which also exceeded the appraisal. Mr. Wilson recommended accepting the bids and stated that the funds would be used to install two emergency wells in south Walton.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve the recommendation to accept the high bids for two parcels at Seabreeze and Camp Creek. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Underwood announced that staff is in the process of moving into the new GEC Center. Mr. Collier stated that the preliminary punch list has been done. Training will be given to the county crews and a walk-through for the department heads will be given. The south Walton county offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday with the reopening on Wednesday. Commissioner Pauls commented that the building still needs to be given an official name. (Tape 3) He also stated that other roads and buildings in the GEC Center need to be given names.

Mr. Marvin Collier gave a brief update on the progress of Alaqua Park, Portland Community Center and the old hospital. Ms. Ingle thanked Mr. Collier for making the transition into the new South Walton Courthouse Annex easy for her and her staff.

Mr. Underwood announced that the closing date for the purchase of properties surrounding the courthouse is scheduled on October 4, 2002. Commissioner Pauls stated that the reason he had asked for the report of county owned properties was to determine if

any of the property could be traded with the State in terms of consolidation of their properties and right-of-way the county will need in the study area.

Mr. Collier advised that Purchasing is handling the metal building for EMS. Bids have been prepared for advertisement. Legal Services is also preparing the bid specifications for EOC's metal building. Both buildings should go out for bid for erection and the slab.

Mr. Underwood advised that staff has discussed the possibility of an impact fee and will present the information at the October 22nd meeting. Ms. Ingle also thanked Mr. Underwood for including Mr. Alex Alford, MIS Director, in the team meetings to help keep him informed.

Commissioner Pauls advised the Board that construction quotes have been received for the beach accesses. Bids were received from Floridian Construction in the amount of \$256,276.00 and Dalton Brothers in the amount of \$322,796.00. Tracey Howell, TDC recommended awarding the bid to the low bidder, Floridian Construction. The beach accesses are at the following locations: Dune Allen (Lake Causeway); Dune Allen (Allens Loop); Seagrove (Andalusia), and Seagrove (Ramsgate).

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the recommendation and award the bid to Floridian Construction, low bid, in the amount of \$256,276.00 for construction of the beach accesses. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Rees commented on Mr. Howell's ability to conduct public hearing for the four different neighborhoods in an attempt to get the public's input for the beach accesses.

Commissioner Pauls informed the Board of an ongoing problem that existed prior to his taking office. Mr. C.W. Fisher owns property where the county connected a road. He stated that he has negotiated with Mr. Fisher and should be presenting a signed agreement in the near future. Attorney Vorbeck stated that the county constructed a road on Mr. Fisher's property. Regional Utilities also needs to put utilities through there and therefore they will be paying for half the costs totaling \$15,000.00. Mr. Wilson will also waive the tap fees. An abandonment needs to occur to close the cul-de-sac.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to move forward with the process in order to resolve the road/abandonment issue. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Rees opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. James Robbins requested the commissioners give one of the metal building to the Darlington VFD providing they provide the land. Mr. Underwood advised Mr. Robbins that according to estimates received, it would take approximately \$450,000 to construct the building. Mr. Collier stated that he could provide the drawings for construction. Mr. Underwood also reminded the Board that the other alternatives would be to use the building at the Wee Care Park or at the Mossy Head Industrial Park. Commissioner Rees also asked that Mr. Bell look into what kind of housing needs EMS might have.

Mr. Robbins also asked about the agreement White Construction. He commented on the scrivener's error for the Black Creek Pit and stated that staff should have some type of accountability. Mr. Underwood stated that these types of issues are the results of occurrences that have happened over the years, which are now being taken care of. He

further explained that the agreement with White is to pave the 2' on each side of the road and the county agreed to reconstruct the road. Commissioner Pauls stated that he met with Mr. White along with Mr. Roy Brown, District 5 Road Foreman, and it was his understanding that Mr. White agreed to repair the road. However, Mr. White never signed that agreement.

Mr. Richard Whitaker asked why an agreement is even needed. He stated that if White Construction destroyed public property then they should be responsible for repairing it.

Commissioner Rees stated that the county now has employee performance evaluations in place to help with accountability.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Lane Rees, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Court