

OCTOBER 22, 2002 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 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 Jones led with prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Commissioner Rees called the meeting to order.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Walker to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes 3, Nayes 0. Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye.

1. EAL Approval

General Fund	\$ 1,404,892.81
County Transportation	\$ 268,975.61
Fine & Forfeiture	\$ 36,758.93
Section 8 Housing	\$ 13,041.41
N.W. Mosquito Control	\$ 19,077.91
W. Co. Library	\$ 10,330.11
Recreation Plat Fee	\$ 1,199.46
Solid Waste Enterprise	\$ 176,988.32
Mossy Head VFD	\$ 572.81
Gelendale VFD	\$ 1,128.85
Darlington VFD	\$ 3,619.91
Liberty VFD	\$ 27,708.63

Red Bay VFD	\$	-
Local Option Gas Tax	\$	32,151.68
Capital Projects Fund	\$	997,729.72
SHIP	\$	28,152.13
Tourist Dev. Council	\$	232,436.56
Mott Sign Grant	\$	975.96
Spec. Law Enforcement	\$	-
Driftwood Debt Service	\$	60,600.00

2. Approve Minutes: Oct. 1, 2002: BCC Land Use Meeting
Oct. 7, 2002: Value Adjustment Board Meeting
3. Records Disposition Request
4. Support State Funding for Preservation of St. Agatha's Church and McLendon House
5. Resolution To Amend The Budget For Unanticipated Grant Revenues for Fiscal Year 2002-2003
6. Request That The Board Approve The Certificate of Acceptance of Subgrant Award for the Byrne Formula Grant for the Sheriff's Department
7. Adoption of Resolution To Amend Budget To Reflect The Acceptance of the Byrne Formula Grant
8. Approval of Surplus Equipment

Mr. William Imfeld, Financial Director, presented an update on his department's activities. He stated that his department has been working on the TRIM requirements. Mr. Imfeld also stated that they are working on updating the latest information on the web site.

Commissioner Rees requested that Mr. Ron Book, County Lobbyist, appear before the Board to address certain issues before proceeding into the budget cycle.

Mr. Russ Barry, Public Works Director, stated that he prepared some information relating to various types of pedestrian crossings. He explained the new technology being used, which allows a pedestrian to activate the system when he wants to cross. Mr. Barry stated that he would like to view several locations to select an appropriate site, possibly at Rosemary Beach. He would like to proceed with advertising for bids. He feels this

alternative is less costly than the recommendation from Preble-Rish. (Commissioner Ryan arrived). The Board agreed to allow Mr. Barry to proceed.

Mr. Barry stated that he has reviewed the information relating to the Covell tract including the contract submitted by Plum Creek Farms, appraisal, and environmental study. Mr. Barry explained that he previously provided a recommendation to not purchase the property, however, that was without all considerations being researched. Mr. Barry now feels that there is a possibility of using the property for mitigation. Of the 730 acres, approximately 220 acres could be used for wetlands mitigation leaving 500 for landfill cells. He commented that there are monies in the landfill account for this purchase. Mr. Barry further requested to be allowed to communicate with Legal Services in review of the contract. The owner accepted an offer in the amount of \$1,000.00 per acre.

Commissioner Ryan questioned how long the property would last if it were to be used for landfill cells. Mr. Barry stated that it would last a minimum of 50 years.

Commissioner Jones questioned what areas of the county this property could be used as mitigation. Mr. Barry stated that it is his understanding that it could be used for any property within the same basin, which would be properties located north of the interstate. Commissioner Rees asked if this could be obtained in writing from the Army Corps of Engineer. (Commissioner Pauls arrived) Commissioner Jones stated that he would like to see a plan showing the areas that will be used for landfill cells in relation to the wetland areas.

Commissioner Rees questioned if an archeological study has been performed on this property. Mr. Barry stated that an independent archeological study would have to be performed prior to use.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to proceed with the purchase of the Covell tract while working with Legal Services on the contract. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Commissioner Jones stated that he would like assurance that the property can be used for mitigation in a broad enough area of the county to be beneficial.

Mr. Barry stated that the landfill remediation should be complete very soon. He also advised that the cease and desist orders have been lifted by the EPA. He spoke with Mr. Rick Holden, Engineer for the Corps, who is expecting the new permits to be issued soon. Commissioner Walker stated that the county should have challenged the Army Corps of Engineer because of the continual delays. He felt that Mr. Book should make an effort to push this issue in Washington D.C. Commissioner Pauls stated that the county has worked within the rules set by DEP and has still not benefited by it.

Mr. Barry reported on the drainage issues relating to Hidden Harbor. On September 30, 2002, Public Works made a request to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for a stormwater improvement grant for improvements in the Holiday Shores drainage basin, including Hidden Harbor Subdivision. This grant will solve the stormwater problem off of North Holiday Road. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$205,000.00 and the county pledges in-kind services in the amount of \$60,000.00. Commissioner Pauls stated that Michael Bomar, Hartman and Associates, feels sure the county would receive the grant. Mr. Imfeld stated that the county would

make notification on November 7, 2002. Commissioner Jones voiced concern with using county funding when there are road problems in District 3 that also need to be addressed. Commissioner Pauls spoke about these subdivisions being platted in the 50's when there were no stormwater issues addressed. He commented that the problems began when the subdivisions reached their critical point of build out. Discussion followed regarding the requirements for building on lots of record. Mr. Mike Lane, Planning Director, stated that they would not have to had permits from DEP.

Mr. Crim questioned if there is any way to collect from the developer for the costs of stormwater. Attorney Vorbeck stated that the county signed off on the project and must therefore take some responsibility.

Mr. Barry reiterated that the grant has been submitted. The funding will be used on county property to help drain the right-of-ways.

Mr. Barry advised that he received the bids for bridge material for Camp Creek Bridge. The low bidder was Hansen Pipe Products in the amount of \$84,974.42.00 for materials. The project was originally set to be contracted out in the amount of \$499,000.00; however, Mr. Barry felt that county staff could do the project for approximately half the cost.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Walker to approve the low bid to Hansen Pipe Products in the amount of \$84,974.42 for bridge materials on Camp Creek Bridge. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Barry advised that West DeFuniak Elementary has requested 500 cubic yards of dirt from the county for the base of their new enclosed physical activity building. The

school will provide the hauling and labor to spread and compact it. The Board agreed to allow the school to obtain the dirt as requested.

Mr. Barry presented a submerged lands easement from the DEP and requested Commissioner Rees sign as Chair of the Board accepting the easement in order to replace the bridge on Hinote Road.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to accept the easement from DEP. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

The commissioners welcomed Mr. Pauls' mother who was visiting from California.

Commissioner Rees recognized Ms. Ingle who was selected as the most popular elected county official in the Emerald Coast according to the 2002 edition of "Best of The Emerald Coast".

Mr. Ronnie Bell, Emergency Response Director, advised the commissioners that he would provide a detailed report on animal control at the next meeting. Commissioner Walker commended Mr. Bell on the animal control services and the ability to make the system work. Mr. Walker stated that the animals are being cared for and the system is working.

Mr. Bell introduced Mr. Prokop, Chief of the Darlington/Gaskin Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Prokop presented the commissioners with a plaque of appreciation to the Walton County Board of County Commissioners for support in making their department a state of the art fire department. Commissioner Rees accepted the plaque on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Mike Lang, Planning Director, appeared before the commissioners with an update on activities within the Planning Department. He reported on changes that have taken place within the department. He stated that they are beginning to become more focused on customer service. Mr. Lane stated that staff will be meeting to discuss their goals and to develop a strategic plan. Additional projects currently in progress include the Wetlands Group and revision on the Comprehensive Plan/Land Development Code. He advised that four firms have expressed an interest in performing the revision. Mr. Lane stated that they have worked with West Florida Regional Planning Council to assist with cleaning up the LDC. Work is still in progress with PBS&J regarding the Mac Bayou Sector Plan.

Commissioner Rees commented on the need to keep track of the Neighborhood Plan. Mr. Underwood advised that Mr. Lane has been working with Legal Services and DCA to keep everyone informed as changes take place.

Mr. Ken Little, Citizens Service Director, appeared before the commissioners regarding Lawrence and Joyce Nash who previously participated in the First-time Homebuyer's Program in the amount of \$4,604.13. Mr. Little explained that since the death of his wife, Mr. Nash is unable to continue making his monthly mortgage payments. West Florida Regional Planning Council has recommended that the county accept \$2,000.00 pay-off and release the mortgage in lieu of foreclosure. The commissioners requested additional information and therefore took no action.

Mr. Gary Mattison, Human Resources Director, presented a listing of those positions under the direction of the Human Resource Division. Mr. Mattison also presented a status report on current activities. He spoke about the increase in health

insurance and recommended creating a county wide insurance committee consisting of employees to address health insurance needs. The HR Department will begin putting together a monthly report highlighting information relating to worker's compensation. Human Resource is currently holding an open enrollment for group health and dental insurance.

Mr. Mattison spoke about a mechanism for resolving problems and various situations. He wants assurance that there is an opportunity for due process for the employee. Human Resource has developed a form that has been working for the employee, using the Disciplinary Action Policy. The policy is used as a resolution process to solve problems.

Mr. Mattison presented revisions to Policy 18.4, Disciplinary Action Procedures and 18.5, Types of Disciplinary Action. Recommended changes to policy 20, Grievance Procedures, would eliminate the Grievance Committee. Mr. Mattison stated that the policy changes are not to take anything away from the employee, but to provide due process.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the recommended policy changes to policy 18 and 20, which would eliminate the grievance committee. Commissioner Walker voiced concern with removing the portion of policy that would eliminate the Grievance Committee. He does not feel that it would be beneficial to the employee. The committee is helpful in solving some problems without a cost to the employee or the county.

Ms. Sara Comander spoke in opposition to removing the Grievance Committee. She felt that the committee does serve a purpose and should be left in place on behalf of

the employees. Commissioner Jones stated that additional language needs to be provided in the policy that would provide an employee an alternative in the event an employee cannot file their complaint according to the current language.

Commissioner Rees called for the vote on the motion to accept the recommended policy changes presented by Human Resource including additional language being added to policy 18.2e “without approval”. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Naye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Commissioner Walker did not approve of the removal of the Grievance Committee. Commissioner Ryan commented on the need to communicate these policies to all employees.

The commissioners recessed briefly. Commissioner Walker was not present when the meeting reconvened.

Ms. Kris Titus, Executive Director of the South Walton Tourist Development Council, presented their Annual Report for review. Ms. Titus also requested to reappoint Mr. Mike Stange and Ms. Joanne Saucier to the Tourist Development Council.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Jones to approve the reappointment of Mike Stange and Joanne Saucier to the TDC Council. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mrs. Titus requested approval to transfer \$950.68 from TDC Salaries to Beach Maintenance Overtime due to the recent storm.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve the transfer of funds from Salaries to Overtime in the amount of \$950.68. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Brad Pickle, Tourist Development Council, appeared before the Board regarding beach restoration. He explained that the commissioners previously directed the TDC staff to hire a firm to determine the necessary action to restore, protect, and enhance the shorelines. Mr. Pickle presented the findings by Taylor Engineering and their final recommendation. The study consisted of a beach analysis, which focused on three areas of critically eroding beaches as designated by DEP. (Commissioner Walker returned) These are the areas available for grant funding. Mr. Pickle also spoke about the importance of sand color, which is the most critical. He further explained how a study was performed by Taylor Engineering to determine compatibility of offshore sand for replacement onto our beaches. It was determined that an area approximately one mile off shore has the sand consisting of the same quality, composition and color. The impact to remove the sand would be minimal to the adjacent shorelines. Part of the analysis was to determine the feasibility of removing the sand from the site and to place it on the beaches. Mr. Pickles stated that they are looking at restoring approximately 6.5 miles of beaches. The worst area is the four miles located adjacent to the City of Destin and an additional 2.5 miles of Destin beaches. Taylor Engineering recommended beginning with this area. The second worst area are those beaches located on the eastern most end of the county and the third area is located adjacent to Tops'1 State Reserve. The distance is too far from the offshore site to relocate the sand. Mr. Pickle spoke about the beach restoration project and methods used.

Ms. Celeste Cobina, Beach to Bay, presented some proposed wording and requested it be included when considering the type of sand to be used to renourish the beaches. She voiced great concern regarding the color of sand and stated that she does not

want to see any other qualities of sand used that would cause discoloration to Walton County beaches. Dr. Taylor stated that they are not recommending the use of any type of sand that is darker. The sand they have found is of better quality. Specifications will be written that state the sand type that needs to be placed on the beach. Attorney Vorbeck commented that the specifications would be written as part of the contract and would contain the required specifications. Commissioner Pauls stated that he agrees with the language provided by Celeste.

Commissioner Walker commented on Mrs. Titus and it being her job to protect the beaches for the tourist and it being in her best interest to do so. Mrs. Titus stated that she agrees with the language provided by Celeste. Mrs. Titus also stated that Destin does not have any means of paying for this project and stated that it will effect our beaches if they are not able to go forward. TDC will continue working with the City of Destin on this issue.

Ms. James questioned the method of renourishing the beaches when property owners will not grant permission for their portion of beach to be renourished. Commissioner Pauls explained what happened in Bay County when people opted out of the beach renourishment program and how they were quickly asking to opt back in.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Walker to direct staff and Taylor Engineering, Inc. to move forward with the design and permitting phase for beach restoration consistent with recommendations. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Attorney Vorbeck did not present any issues for discussion.

Commissioner Rees presented for discussion, the possibility of hiring a Special Master to conduct the annual Value Adjustment Board Hearings. Commissioner Walker stated that he felt it would be better for the commissioners to continue hearing the petitions in order to better serve the people. Attorney Vorbeck explained briefly how the process would work using a Special Master. He also stated that according to Florida Statute, the State would pay for the process for counties with less than 75,000 in population. The commissioners agreed to leave the process as it is and therefore took no action.

Commissioner Rees informed the Board of discussion that took place at the FAC Meeting regarding the legislative issues coming up and the tight budget. He stated that the next conference will be held in Sandestin December 4-6.

Commissioner Walker spoke about the current organizational structure of the county. He stated that the structure needs to be reviewed in order to distribute the authority and responsibility. He stated that qualified individuals have been hired to manage the divisions and felt that those individuals could have the ability to compromise their positions. He voiced concern with any one individual having too much power. Commissioner Walker stated that he would prepare a statement to be submitted as part of the record. Commissioner Rees commented that it is good to review structure from time to time. He also reminded the Board that the Florida Association of Counties would be holding the Commissioners Certification Program, which will address county structure.

Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Ryan did not present any items for discussion.

Commissioner Pauls commented on the Gulf Power Symposium currently underway and stated that attendance was up. Some of the comments made were that the rest of the country is becoming more like Florida.

Commissioner Pauls spoke about a conversation he had with the President of University of West Florida. The University is looking to expand campuses and they are communicating with Okaloosa-Walton Community College regarding this issue.

Ms. Nancy James advised the commissioners that a conference, Planning For The Future of The Florida Panhandle, will be held in Panama City Beach and asked if the commissioners were aware of it and questioned if they would be attending. She also asked that the Planning staff be encouraged to attend.

The Commissioner recessed for lunch and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. (Commissioner Walker did not return immediately following the break)

Mr. Aaron Kincaid, U.S. Forestry Division appeared before the commissioners to present their annual report. He advised that there were 109 wildfires burning about 576 acres and further addressed ways to prevent fires. Mr. Kincaid spoke about the work they have been performing in south Walton to prevent fires. Mr. Bell requested that Mr. Kincaid appear back at the November BCC Meeting to obtain approval of the operating plan.

Mr. Underwood presented information relating to a potential MSBU for Lake Tantara and Imperial Lakes. Mr. Underwood stated that the Board must decide if the county wants to advance the monies for the Lake Tantara project and make a determination if the money will be repaid. Imperial Lakes has an engineer and has collected the money to pay for their engineering. November 12th is the deadline to

determine if a MSBU will be established. A resolution must be adopted by January 1, 2003 stating the county's intent to collect the non-advalorem tax assessment on the tax bills. Late Spring of 2003 the Board would adopt an ordinance establishing the procedures for imposing and collecting the fees including any development fees the commissioners deem necessary. The improvements for Lake Tantara are estimated at a cost of \$160,000.00 to bring the roads up to standard. Engineering costs are estimated at \$20,000.00 and permitting at \$1,500.00. The expected cost for annual maintenance is \$8,640.00. According to these calculations the one-time cost per parcel would be \$630.00 with an annual cost of \$34.00 per parcel thereafter, based on 254 parcels. He stated that an engineer must first determine if this is feasible and if the money can be recouped.

Commissioner Jones stated that the Board must first decide if they are willing to put up the \$20,000.00 to allow the engineer to study this issue further, based on the fact that all the money will eventually be recouped. Mr. Underwood asked Mr. Imfeld where the \$20,000.00 could come from to pay the up front costs. Mr. Imfeld stated that it could be taken from the General Fund until it can be replaced. Commissioner Ryan reminded the Board that there are issues relating to the dams that must be considered too. This issue will be discussed later in the meeting.

Commissioner Rees called to order the advertised public hearing to consider approval of the final plats, Mack Bayou Pines and Summer's Edge 2nd Addition.

Mrs. Jennifer Christensen, Planning Technician, presented the final plat for Mac Bayou Pines, a 19 lot single-family subdivision located on the south side of Lamb Drive.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve the Mac Bayou Pines final plat for recording. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Summers Edge Second Addition final plat is a 15 lot single-family subdivision located on Eastern Lake Road. Staff recommended approval.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Ryan to approve Summers Edge Second Addition final plat for recording. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

(Commissioner Walker returned)

Mr. Underwood presented a request on behalf of the Committee for Epilepsy Awareness asking the commissioners to adopt a resolution recognizing the month of November as National Epilepsy Awareness Month.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to adopt a resolution (2002-56) recognizing November as National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Ms. Jackie Malone, Chair of the SHIP Committee, appeared before the Board to answer questions relating to the release of a second mortgage on behalf of Mr. Nash. She stated that the committee recommended accepting a \$2,000.00 settlement offer releasing the second mortgage.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Jones to accept the \$2,000.00 settlement offer from Wells Fargo Home Mortgage for the Lawrence Nash property located on North 20th Street in DeFuniak Springs. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Pauls Aye,

Jones Aye, Walker Naye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye. Commissioner Walker felt that additional information is needed.

Commissioner Rees called to order the advertised public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution in support of the Florida 4-H Youth Development proposal through House Bill 1611 for Camp Timpooshee 4-H Camp. There were no public comments voiced.

Motion by Commissioner Walker, second by Commissioner Ryan to adopt a resolution (2002-55) in support of Camp Timpooshee 4-H Camp. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Greg Chelius, Trust for Public Land, appeared before the Board regarding the Lake Stallworth Preserve. The Trust for Public Land is a national non-profit land conservation organization that helps protect land in order to build better communities. Mr. Chelius stated that they are looking at the Stallworth property in South Walton County. He stated that their request is for the county to match \$450,000.00 with a \$2 million Federal match to acquire the property. The property appraised at \$2.6 million one year ago.

Mr. Chelius stated that tourism is the county's primary economic benefit. This property would provide public access too the beach. Ms. Lorna Patrick, Fish and Wildlife, stated that there are two accesses that could be used by the public. One on the east side of Stallworth Preserve, which has about four or five parking places. There is also an access through the Tops'l State Preserve. Mr. Chelius stated that this is unprecedented for the government to give a county this amount of money toward an acquisition of this nature.

Mr. Chelius explained that the Florida Communities Trust Program provides monies annually for the purchase of property to help counties protect their best land for the public. If the county makes application before spring of 2003, Mr. Chelius feels that there is a 95% chance of receiving a complete reimbursement of the \$450,000.00 within two years. Mr. Chelius stated that various organizations throughout the county have voiced their support: Tourist Development Council, Beach To Bay, South Walton Community Council, Coastal Dune Lake Task Force, Walton County Tax Payers Association and others.

Commissioner Walker voiced concern with loosing the tax base that is currently coming from that property if the county were to purchase it. Mr. Chelius stated that there is a balance because of the protection the county could provide to the land enhancing tourism. He also stated that the land can be developed. Commissioner Walker also voiced concern with the lack of access.

Commissioner Ryan stated that he is disappointed with the development in south Walton County and feels this property should be preserved. He felt that the county should move forward with this opportunity.

Commissioner Rees stated that he sees this as an opportunity to begin preserving the coastal lakes along the gulf. Mr. Chelius stated that they are willing to work with the county to preserve the coastal dune lakes in order to help find funding.

Commissioner Pauls disclosed the fact that he currently resides on Stallworth Lake. He stated that he has been familiar with this property and its use for years. He also stated that he is aware of an offer that was recently made in the amount of \$2.6 million which was denied. The property is currently on the market for \$3.4 million.

Commissioner Pauls stated that he does not see any conflict and is not aware of any kind of financial benefit for himself if the county were to purchase the property. The entire Board agreed that this is not a conflict of interest. Commissioner Pauls stated that the current owner has a letter from the Planning Department that would allow them to develop the property without regards to the county's new standards on coastal dune lakes. He feels that it will be a great opportunity for the county to develop the property and also feels that it will help the county avoid litigation otherwise.

Commissioner Rees spoke about the possibility of potential litigation if the county purchases the land. Attorney Vorbeck stated that the commissioners would have to make a determination that the purchase is in the best interest of the county.

Ms. Cobena spoke about the accesses on the property and stated that she has seen many tourists using them, not only residents. Ms. James spoke in favor of the county purchasing the property. Mr. D'Autillia stated that the Coastal Dune Lake Task Board is in favor of the purchase and feels the county should take necessary action to proceed with the purchase.

Further discussion occurred regarding the possibility of using Recreational Impact Fee funds, if it is allowed, to pay for the purchase. Mr. Imfeld felt that it would qualify, but would need to research it to make certain. Commissioner Pauls stated that funding should be the second issue of concern in this instance. Full title would be given to the county when purchased. Mr. Don Crim questioned if monies from the economic funds could be used.

Motion by Commissioner Ryan, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve to move forward with the acquisition of the Stallworth property in the amount of \$450,000.00.

Commissioner Jones commented that the Board should first identify where the monies will come from before agreeing to purchase the property.

Ms. Muriel Adams spoke in favor of the purchase of the property in order to preserve the land and keep it pristine.

Commissioner Walker motioned to amend the original motion to allow the funds to come from the Recreational Impact Fees if allowable. Ayes 2, Nays 3. Pauls Naye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Naye, Ryan Naye. The amended motion failed.

Commissioner Rees called for the vote on the original motion to proceed with the purchase without designating where the funds would come from at this point. Ayes 3, Nays 2. Pauls Aye, Jones Naye, Walker Naye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Commissioner Jones brought the issue regarding Lake Tantara back to the table for discussion. He questioned the commissioners regarding their desire to move forward with spending \$20,000.00 for engineering services to determine the feasibility of bringing the roads up to standards. Mr. Barry explained that the road standard is based on not paving the roads and using an eight-inch compacted base.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Walker to proceed with expending \$20,000.00 to perform an engineering study to determine if it will be feasible to move forward with bringing the roads in the Lake Tantara Subdivision up to standards . Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

The costs will be used to inform the residents and to determine if they wish to move forward.

Commissioner Jones introduced Mr. Tim Roberts from Imperial Lakes and advised that this neighborhood is also asking for help. He stated that these residents have hired Mr. Kermit George, Engineer, to calculate the costs for them. Commissioner Jones stated that there is a clear public benefit to repairing the dams. Mr. Roberts stated that they have raised \$16,000.00 and they are receiving about 65% support from the 91 parcel owners. Imperial Lakes residents are asking for help in order to be able to proceed with the necessary repairs by implementing an MSBU.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Walker to proceed with engineering at Imperial Lakes. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pauls Aye, Jones Aye, Walker Aye, Rees Aye, Ryan Aye.

Mr. Marvin Collier updated the commissioners on the progress of various construction projects. He stated that they are about 60% complete with the demolition portion at the old hospital. Mr. Collier stated that they would be holding a coordination meeting between the two architectural firms to discuss the best method to tie the jail and new courthouse addition together. The City of DeFuniak is currently in the process of reviewing the development order for the jail and should be given the development order for the courthouse soon. Mr. Collier stated that they are looking to see if it is possible to begin the new four-story courthouse addition to save on time. Mr. Collier advised that the DeFuniak Springs EMS staff would be moving into the house next to the old hospital until repairs can be made to their office. The development order for the Zone 3 Maintenance Facility is currently being reviewed by the Planning Department. The plans

for the Portland Community Center have been completed and will be bid out after completion by Legal Services. The designs for the Alaqua Creek Park are in process. Mr. Collier advised that some work has been done on the Paxton Fair project and they will be working to complete it as soon as possible. Work on the Wee Care Park Teen Center has begun and will take about two months to complete.

Mr. Underwood responded to a previous request by Mr. Granger Bruner regarding surplus property. He stated that Mr. Allen Brown, Right of Way Specialist for the Public Works Department, has reviewed the properties and any potential uses. Mr. Brown presented a color-coded listing showing which parcels he recommended retaining. Some of the properties have no established access. Some properties have wetlands and could possibly be held in wetlands preservation for future mitigation. After further discussion, the commissioners agreed that additional information is needed. Mr. Underwood requested that Mr. Barry develop a list of all county properties that could possibly be used for mitigation.

Commissioner Walker commented on the need to move forward with the assisted living facility. Mr. Collier stated that he would begin looking at potential locations.

Commissioner Rees opened the floor for public comments.

Ms. Nancy James invited the commissioners to the Coastal Dune Lake Task Force Meeting on Thursday evening.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Lane Rees, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Court