

NOVEMBER 26, 2002- REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 26, 2002 at 9:00 a.m. in the Boardroom of the Walton County Courthouse

The following Board members were present: Larry Jones, Chair, Tim Pauls, Vice-Chair, Commissioner Lane Rees, Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen, and Commissioner Ro Cuchens. 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 and welcomed the newly elected commissioners to office.

Mr. William Pennington, Finance Director for the Clerk of Courts, presented an award from the Government Finance Officers Association for excellence in financial reporting for fiscal year 2001. Ms. Ingle complemented the County's OMB Office for working together to obtain the necessary information. Commissioner Rees accepted the award on behalf of the commissioners and the county. He complemented staff for their hard work and the excellent working relationship between the offices of Mr. Pennington, Clerk's Office, and Mr. Imfeld, Director of Finance and Administration.

Commissioner Rees opened the floor for nominations for Chairman of the Board.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Pridgen to appoint Commissioner Larry Jones as Chairman of the Walton County Board of Commissioners.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Pridgen to nominate Commissioner Tim Pauls as Vice-Chairman. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Ms. Ingle requested authorization to continue using the same signature plate with the present Chairman's signature until the new signature plates can be made; approximately three weeks.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve for the Clerk's Office to continue using the signature plate with Chairman Rees' signature until the new plate can be made. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Commissioner Rees turned the Chair position over to Mr. Jones. Chairman Jones presented Commissioner Rees with a plaque for his outstanding leadership as Chairman.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Pridgen to approve the consent agenda as presented consisting of the following items. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

1. EAL Approval

|                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| General Fund           | \$ 410,387.84 |
| County Transportation  | \$ 196,340.13 |
| Fine & Forfeiture      | \$ 55,236.39  |
| Section 8 Housing      | \$ 183.58     |
| N.W. Mosquito Control  | \$ 2,659.82   |
| W. Co. Library         | \$ 19,283.51  |
| Recreation Plat Fee    | \$ 177.62     |
| Solid Waste Enterprise | \$ 146,610.98 |
| Mossy Head VFD         | \$ 1,116.13   |
| Glendale VFD           | \$ 477.60     |
| Darlington VFD         | \$ 3,610.14   |
| Liberty VFD            | \$ 310.95     |
| Red Bay VFD            | \$ 452.95     |

|                       |    |            |
|-----------------------|----|------------|
| Local Option Gas Tax  | \$ | 24,201.04  |
| Capital Projects Fund | \$ | 65,532.42  |
| SHIP                  | \$ | 6,850.00   |
| Tourist Dev. Council  | \$ | 132,969.94 |
| Mott Sign Grant       | \$ | -          |
| Spec. Law Enforcement | \$ | -          |
| Driftwood Debt Serv.  |    |            |

2. Approve Minutes: November 4, 2002 – Land Use Hearing
3. Records Disposition Request
4. Surplus Equipment
5. Lease Extension Agreement for Supervisor of Elections Storage

Mr. William Pennington presented the Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2002. He stated that the two new investments are performing well and have earned \$850,000.00.

Mr. William Imfeld, Financial Director, appeared before the Board and presented an update on the ongoing activities under his direction. He stated that the Grants Department has concluded their audit. His department is also working with Legal Services to develop a purchasing manual. The Telecommunications Department is presently working to upgrade the communications at the GEC, which should be completed today. Mr. Imfeld stated that he received notice from the Department of Revenue that the budget adopted in September is in full compliance.

Mr. Imfeld requested direction from the Board regarding the waiving of property taxes for Healthmark Hospital on their equipment in lieu of making contribution for indigent care. The tax bill for the current year amounts to \$19,000.00, which has been waived in the past. Mr. Imfeld said that Healthmark has indicated to him that they spent about \$250,000.00 last year on indigent care.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Pridgen to approve waiving the property tax for Healthmark Hospital. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Naye.

Mr. Russ Barry, Public Works Director, presented an update for his division. Mr. Barry stated that the cease and desist order has been lifted by the EPA and he has received the permits for both Thompson Road and JD Miller Road. Mr. Barry advised the Board that they are preparing to pave Davidson Road. Upon completion they will immediately move to Thompson Road and then JD Miller Road.

Mr. Barry introduced Ms. Betty Church, who appeared before the commissioners to request that Alligator Lake be opened to lower the water level. Ms. Church stated that her dock is under water and some of her vegetation is also being flooded. Because of recent rains the water has risen about 20 feet into her back yard. She stated that the foundation of her home is in danger. Mr. Barry stated that he has spoken with the Coastal Dune Lake Task Force and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding this issue. He stated that DEP will not agree to open the lake unless a septic system is being threatened. The commissioners asked if DEP could perform an onsite visit. Commissioner Cuchens also requested to be present when DEP visits. Mr. Barry stated that in the event of an emergency and additional rains threaten the situation he would then act under the emergency status.

Mr. Barry explained that Casa Grande Lane and Center Avenue were inadvertently omitted from the county's maintained road list and therefore requested they be added.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Pridgen to approve adding Casa Grande Lane and Center Avenue to the county's maintained road list. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Barry stated that he intended to use monies left from the paving of CR2 to replace the Caney Creek Bridge. The Purchasing Department received two responsive bids and Mr. Barry requested approval of the low bid to S&S Structural Systems in the amount of \$174,850.00.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Cuchens to accept the recommendation and award the low bid to S&S Structural Systems in the amount of \$174,850.00 for the components to replace the Caney Creek Bridge on CR2. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Barry presented the issue of replacing Beck Bridge on Beck Bridge Road over Limestone Creek. The bridge was washed out about 4 years ago. A study has been performed to change the design of the bridge to prevent it from washing out in the future. The State has agreed to pay 75% of the replacement costs. Mr. Barry recommended replacing the bridge. However, if the Board chooses not to then he recommended action be taken to remove the road from the county's maintained road list. Surrounding property owners have contacted Mr. Barry in opposition to replacing the bridge. He said that only one individual has contacted him in favor of replacing the bridge. The State would pay approximately \$140,000.00 and the County would pay about \$45,000.00. Commissioner Pridgen stated that Oak Grove Bridge is a wooden bridge and needs upgrading worse than Beck Bridge. Mr. Barry explained that the DSR would have to be dropped if not used for Beck Bridge.

Mr. Bill Alford, adjacent property owner, spoke in opposition to replacing the bridge. He commented that the elevation of other bridges prevents flooding, but Beck Bridge continually floods. He further stated that the amount of traffic on the road does not warrant spending that amount of money on the bridge. In addition, the bridge being out also prevents people from continually having parties under the bridge.

Motion by Commissioner Pridgen, second by Commissioner Cuchens to not reconstruct Beck Bridge. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye. Commissioner Rees reiterated that this would be a long-term decision and that two years from now the road could not be reopened. The residents agreed.

Mr. Barry advised that he received a request from Maude Saunders Elementary School asking the county to assist with striping their track. Labor and materials would cost approximately \$200.00. Mr. Barry recommended supporting their request.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Pauls to accept the recommendation and assist Maude Saunders Elementary School with their request. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Commissioner Rees requested an update on the Covell tract. Mr. Barry stated that he is waiting on a call from Plum Creek, but research is ongoing. Commissioner Rees also asked for an update on Birch Street. Mr. Barry stated that this is also under review.

Commissioner Pauls asked for an update on CR 3280. Mr. Barry stated that he has still been unsuccessful in contacting White Construction. He stated that he is waiting for a date as to when White's hauling operation will be complete. Mr. Barry stated that the contract for CR 3280 is ready to bid.

Attorney Gary Vorbeck, Legal Services Director, asked the Board to review the information he passed out to them regarding quasi-judicial hearings and to relate any comments back to him. He stated that he would like to present it to the other appointed boards that hold quasi-judicial hearings. Commissioner Pauls questioned if Florida Statute requires the Planning Commission to hold quasi-judicial hearings. Mr. Vorbeck explained that in order for the Board of County Commissioners to consider the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendations as substantial and competent evidence the proceeding in which the Planning and Zoning Commission hearings are conducted must be based on quasi-judicial rules.

Mr. Ronnie Bell, Emergency Response Director, appeared before the Board with an update on his division activities. The report on animal control states that 300 calls were received. The animal control officers picked up 89 dogs and 45 cats. Six animals were returned to their owners and eleven animals were adopted.

Mr. Bell also reported on 911 activities, the number of calls and those responded to, the number of EMS calls responded to, fire calls, Airheart 1 responses, and the breakdown on activities by the South Walton Fire Department.

Mr. Bell informed the Board that the City of Freeport has renewed their contract with the Humane Society. The Affidavit that was requested to be drafted at the last meeting was prepared by Legal Services and presented for the commissioners. Commissioner Cuchens and Chairman Jones felt that the Humane Society should not be singled out in this manner. Mr. Jerry Fulaytar, CARE, stated that he suggested the affidavit and explained why.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Pridgen to take no action on the affidavit. Ayes 3, Naves 2. Rees Naye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Naye.

Mr. Bell informed the Board that the Chamber of Commerce is requesting their new address at the GEC Center. He explained that the road leading to their building has not been named and stated that EOC would like to designate the road name as South Centre Trail.

Mr. Bell informed the Board that the county previously requested that Walton County be declared a local state of emergency due to damages received from Tropical Storm Isidore. He explained that regulations require damages amounting to \$16.5 million before they will declare a declaration. Walton County received approximately \$5 million in damages.

Chairman Jones recognized Mr. Joel Paul, former commissioner, who was present in the audience.

Mr. Ken Little, Citizens Service Director, presented an update for those divisions under Citizen Services. He also presented a request from the Walton County School District asking for support during their annual District Science Fair. Mr. Little explained that certificates have been provided in the past. Mr. Little stated that the Science Fair will be held December 12<sup>th</sup>. The commissioners concurred.

Chairman Jones asked Mr. Little if the Veteran's Service would be providing services at the South Walton Courthouse Annex. Mr. Little explained that they are working to provide additional services in south Walton.

Mr. Little presented a handout regarding the organizational structure of the county. Mr. Little presented a list of committee appointments that need to be filled due to the vacancies left by outgoing commissioners. Mr. Little explained that the Tri-County Community Council and the Small Counties Coalition vacancies need to be filled as quickly as possible. Mr. Underwood requested to appoint Mr. Little if the commissioners feel that they would not be able to attend the meetings. Mr. Underwood and Ms. Shirl Williams names were both offered as appointments to the Boards.

Mr. Joel Paul explained that in order for Tri-County to receive the Community Service Block Grant from DCA certain individuals are required to serve on the Board. Participation at the meetings is one of the key elements. Mr. Paul asked that Mr. Little be appointed and encouraged attendance at the meetings.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Cuchens to appoint Commissioner Pridgen to serve on the Tri-County Community Council Board for a period of one year. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Pridgen, second by Commissioner Rees to appoint Commissioner Cuchens to serve on the Small County Coalition Board for a period of one year. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Commissioner Rees stated that he has interest in serving on the TPO and questioned if Mr. Little has heard when Walton County would be receiving a third seat on the Board. Mr. Little stated that it would probably be in March or April of 2003.

Commissioner Rees stated that he also served on the Strategic Partnership Initiative Board for OWCC. He felt that it would be appropriate for Commissioner Jones to serve now that he is Chairman.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to allow Commissioner Rees to continue serving on the Florida Association of Counties Trust Board of Directors. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Commissioner Cuchens stated that he would like to serve on the TPO.

Mr. Little presented information relating to the All-America City Award. The award is also open to counties. Mr. Little stated that Walton County is already performing many of the required criteria. Commissioner Rees commented that the award can help attract businesses to the county and could have a positive impact on economic development. Mr. Little requested authorization to proceed with submitting an application. The Board concurred. He also stated that he would like an opportunity to provide additional information at a later date regarding the Governor's Sterling Award.

Mr. Gary Mattison, Human Resources Director, presented information relating to the activities in the Human Resource Division. He presented the total number of employees, 438, as well as vacant positions currently being advertised. Commissioner Rees questioned if the Growth Management Director's position is still being advertised. Mr. Mattison stated that the position is still being advertised, but they are waiting on the department to stabilize after all the recent changes. Mr. Mattison also reported on other ongoing activities within his division.

Attorney Dave Thomas appeared before the Board, representing his client Mr. Thomas Hicks. Mr. Underwood explained that Code Enforcement recently cited Mr. Hicks for operating a borrow pit on an area known as Estate Residential, without a development order. A stop work order was issued on October 9<sup>th</sup>. The Code Enforcement Department found Mr. Hicks in violation of 12.03.05d, failing to comply with a stop work order, not having a development work order and the pit not being an acceptable use for that land classification. A fine of \$1,400.00 was levied. Staff recommended allowing the Chairman to sign an agreement with Mr. Hicks allowing him to continue the operation for one year, ending December 1, 2003. The agreement would also waive the fine and suspend the stop work order and additional restrictions would be placed on the operation of the pit.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve for Chairman Jones to sign an agreement with Mr. Thomas Hicks allowing him to continue operating the pit until December 2003; approve waiving the fine and lift the stop work order; change page 1 of 3 to state “12 acres” instead of “10 acres”.

Attorney Thomas explained that it may take his client longer than one year to bring his property into compliance, but this will allow him to begin. He also stated that there would not be any impact to the road. Mr. Jack Rhodes, agent for Mr. Hicks, stated that the parcel in question is a 40-acre parcel and the portion to be mined is only +/-12 acres.

Mr. David Kramer, member of the Code Enforcement Board, addressed the Board regarding the fine issued by Code Enforcement. He stated the reason for issuing the fine

was because Mr. Hicks was in violation of the stop work order. Mr. Kramer asked that the fine not be waived.

Chairman Jones called for a vote on the motion to approve the agreement with the changes. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Mattison presented the commissioners with a copy of the employee bulletin and stated that it will be ongoing.

Mr. Mike Lane, Planning Director, gave an update on the activities within his department. Mr. Lane stated that there are currently 68 ongoing projects. Because of the number of projects, the Planning Commission will hold a meeting in December this year. Mr. Lane stated that additional phone lines have been installed to better assist the public. He also stated that the first public hearing has been held regarding the Land Development Code revisions. Due to the lack of participation a press release will be sent out to better notify the public. Mr. Lane advised that he is working on a strategic plan for his department, which will be presented for the commissioner's review upon completion. Commissioner Pauls questioned if a consultant would be used to assist with the Comp Plan/LDC changes. Mr. Lane stated that seven proposals have been received and they are in the process of ranking them.

Mr. Pat Markey, Parks and Recreation Manager, gave an overview on his department. He stated that phase I of the WeeCare Park has been completed and they are now working on phase II, which will be complete in April. Funding for phase III has been applied for. Mr. Markey also stated that he has recently been appointed to oversee the trails system at the GEC Center. Mr. Markey is also assisting the cities of Paxton and

Freeport with their recreation complexes. He stated that he is working to improve boat ramps, especially in the Freeport area.

Mr. Markey advised that he is continuing to work with the City of Freeport regarding the swimming pool. He advised that the City would own the property until the day they open the pool at which time they will turn it over to the county. The pool should open in May 2003. However, funding has not yet been designated for operating the pool. Discussion followed regarding the size of the pool and if it will meet the ADA requirements.

Mr. Dewey Wilson, President and General Manager of Florida Community Services, appeared before the Board requesting site approval for a water storage tank. Mr. Wilson stated that he has a purchase contract on a 15-acre parcel. The site is located on the west boundary of Christian International and is approximately 400 feet off Highway 98. The property appraised at \$325,000 and an environmental assessment has been performed. The water tank is a three million gallon tank.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to approve the site location for the water tank. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Commissioner Rees questioned Mr. Wilson about the four lots that he had previously requested to sell. Mr. Wilson advised that two of the four lots were sold.

Mr. Underwood advised the commissioners that two subdivisions, Driftwood Shores and Hatchee Shores Subdivision, were previously developed, but with no connector road between the two subdivisions. He explained that Mr. C.W. Fisher's property was used as a connector road. Mr. Fisher had a verbal arrangement that would

allow the county to open that road and construct an asphalt connector between the two subdivisions in exchange for the county giving up a portion of the cul-de-sac at the end of Driftwood Drive. Mr. Fisher is now requesting that the work be completed. Negotiations between the County, Regional Utilities, and Mr. Fisher have resulted in the County paying \$7,500.00 and Regional Utilities paying \$7,500.00 to purchase the necessary right of way. In addition, Regional Utilities has agreed to waive the water and sewer tap fees for the connection of property owned by Mr. Fisher (Driftwood Shores, Lot 15). Staff recommended allowing the Chairman to sign the agreement with Mr. Fisher, which included the cost of an appraisal, application fee, and legal fees.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Pridgen to authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement with Mr. Fisher and approve payment of necessary fees. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Underwood spoke about the possibility of implementing an impact fee to fund necessary infrastructure in south Walton. The new sector plan is estimated at \$7-\$12 million. Additional costs associated with traffic control, bridges, storm water drainage, and utilities, are some of the other funding needs. Mr. Underwood stated that there is a need for additional funding and requested authorization to negotiate a contract with Dr. Nichols, the leading expert in this field, to perform a feasibility study for imposing an impact fee. Commissioner Pauls commented that the Comp Plan stipulates that the county will implement a stormwater program in south Walton. Currently there is not funding mechanism in place to perform that task. He felt that this type of funding structure needs to be put in place in order to provide the necessary infrastructure.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to enter into a contract with Dr. Nichols that allows him to proceed with a feasibility study to determine the need for implementing an impact fee. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Naye, Pauls Aye. Mr. Underwood stated that he would negotiate a price with Dr. Nichols and present the costs back to the commissioners at a later date.

Mr. Underwood presented a contract between the county and the City of DeFuniak Springs for mosquito control services within the city in the amount of \$10,500.00 per year.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Rees to allow the Chairman to sign an agreement with the City of DeFuniak Springs for mosquito control services in the amount of \$10,500.00. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Underwood presented the contract with Nabors, Giblin and Nickerson, P.A. for the fire assessment program. Ms. Shirl explained that they are the firm that coordinates with the Tax Collector, verifies the tax roll, and mails the tax notices. This includes the six dependent districts funded by special assessments.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Cuchens to approve the contract with Nabors, Giblin and Nickerson, P.A. for the fire assessment program. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Marvin Collier, Construction Manager, appeared before the commissioners with an update on his ongoing projects. Mr. Collier presented a change order for the South Walton Courthouse Annex. The changes are a result of miscellaneous items

necessary for completion and amount to \$58,621.79. The monies are available in contingencies.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Cuchens to approve the change order amounting to \$291,682.80 to Watkins Constructors. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Collier stated that the plans for the courthouse renovations, as well as the jail, should be completed soon. He also reported on other facilities currently being worked on.

The commissioners recessed for lunch and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Rees requested to change the December 24<sup>th</sup> Commissioner's Meeting. The meeting was previously changed to December 23<sup>rd</sup>; however, due to the holidays he requested the meeting be held on December 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Cuchens to change the December 24<sup>th</sup> meeting to December 20<sup>th</sup> due to the holidays. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Commissioner Rees advised that he had a meeting with Congressman Boyd's office. They have asked the Board to develop five key legislative items. Some ideas Mr. Commissioner Rees presented were the transportation issues on Highway 98, four-laning of Highway 331 North, economic development and homeland security. Commissioner Pauls stated that he would like to hold a strategic planning meeting to discuss these issues.

Commissioner Rees stated that he met with a group from San Antonio, who worked with their community and the neighboring military while developing their

industrial park. He mentioned the possibility of working with various groups while planning the Mossy Head Industrial Park.

Commissioner Rees stated that he attended the annual luncheon for COPE, who is in strong support of Walton County. He also announced that there will be two upcoming workshops given by Florida Association of Counties. One conference will be held December 4-6 and the other will be for new commissioners in January 2003.

Chairman Jones questioned the possibility of changing the morning commissioner meetings to 8:00 a.m. The Board concurred. Commissioner Pauls asked if the Board would consider using the two courthouse facilities for the meetings rather than traveling throughout the community. The commissioners will be holding town hall meetings in various areas of the county to allow the constituents an opportunity to voice their concerns. The commissioner agreed to hold their meetings at the two courthouse locations. The first town hall meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mossy Head Community Center. The commissioners will hold their regular morning meeting at the courthouse beginning at 8:00 a.m. The regular nightly meeting will alternate between DeFuniak Springs and south Walton.

Commissioner Cuchens requested if a temporary hold could be placed on hiring and construction at the hospital and jail in order to familiarize himself with each of the ongoing activities. He stated that he would like to meet with the Sheriff to discuss the issues. The commissioners commented that meetings have been held with the Sheriff and they do not want to delay any progress due to additional costs that could arise from any delays. Commissioner Jones agreed that the new commissioners need to be informed on what is happening, however, construction on the capital projects will not begin within the

next 60 to 90 days. Commissioner Jones asked staff to assist in providing necessary information to the new commissioners.

Mr. Rod Kendig and Mr. Dale Cromwell, Baskerville-Donovan, Inc., appeared before the commissioners to present information relating to the Mossy Head Industrial Park Master Plan planning services. Mr. Kendig spoke about the four major elements of an industrial park master plan and the market analysis. He presented examples of parks they previously designed.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Pauls to enter into an agreement with Baskerville-Donovan, Inc. in the amount of \$209,000.00 to proceed with master planning for the Mossy Head Industrial Park. Commissioner Pauls questioned what services are provided for that cost and why it is so costly. Mr. Condwell explained that there is not an existing boundary survey, which is costly, but will add value to the property once it has been completed.

Chairman Jones called for a vote on the motion to enter into an agreement with Baskerville-Donovan. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Chairman Jones called to order the advertised public hearing to consider the final plat for Seaside 14. Mrs. Jennifer Christensen, Planning Technician, presented the plat and stated that staff recommended approval. Seaside 14 is a 6 lot single-family residential subdivision located on the south side of 30A in Seaside.

Motion by Commissioner Rees, second by Commissioner Pridgen to accept staff's recommendation and approve the Seaside 14 final plat for recording. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Tom Powell, Economic Development Council, appeared before the commissioners and recommended selecting a name for the Mossy Head Industrial Park and securing it before someone selects the same name the county may want to use.

Mr. Powell advised the Board of a firm that has interest in possibly relocating to Walton County. The firm, referred to as "Project Grace" for confidential reasons, is an international company that employs over 5,000 people. The firm is consolidating and considering moving some positions to Walton County. The firm would employ 20 individuals in Walton County in addition to 70-80 jobs in nearby areas. Mr. Powell stated that the firm would be relocating to a location on Highway 98 and has stipulated that they will not move to this location without proper traffic signals. Commissioner Rees voiced concern with hurting the concurrency on Highway 98 with the addition of another traffic light. Commissioner Pauls stated that he is in support of the request. Mr. Powell stated that he has been working with Mrs. Angie Biddle to secure a grant for the engineer designs for the lighting.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Rees to proceed with the grant application for this project. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Mr. Dave Lovell and Mr. David Haight, PBS&J Consulting, appeared before the commissioners to present information relating to the South Walton Master Plan Study from U.S. Highway 331 to Mack Bayou Road. Mr. Lovell stated that his firm has developed a proposal based on the original RFP and available budget.

Mr. David Haight, Planner, presented the proposal and explained the following seven objectives of the study.

1. Unify the study areas land use and neighborhood maps
2. Clarify and map existing land uses using new zoning categories
3. Assign the land use mapping designations to individual parcels
4. Assess future land development potential to generally assess infrastructure needs
5. Obtain balanced and meaningful public and agency input (Public Meetings/Workshops)
6. Adopt, in the form of a map and code, detailed zoning district designations tied to parcels in the study area
7. Obtain formal approvals of the Master Plan and zoning map (Planning Commission/BOCC)

Mr. Haight presented a proposed schedule and felt that they could make it work if they remain aggressive in holding the public hearings. Mr. Underwood explained that the total cost of the proposed study is \$155,000.00 and recommended proceeding.

Motion by Commissioner Pauls, second by Commissioner Rees to accept staff's recommendation and proceed with PBS&J's proposal in the amount of \$155,000.00. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Rees Aye, Pridgen Aye, Jones Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pauls Aye.

Commissioner Pauls commented on the importance of this study. He stated that it will fulfill one of the requirements in the Comp Plan regarding Town Center designations. He felt that this will benefit the entire county.

Chairman Jones opened the floor for public comments. Commissioner Cuchens stated that he attended the TPO meeting and spoke with Commissioner Bill Roberts from Okaloosa County. He stated that Mr. Roberts desires better communications between Walton and Okaloosa Counties. Commissioner Cuchens requested authorization to act as liaison. The commissioners agreed that he could communicate with Okaloosa County without being appointed a liaison.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lane Rees, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Court