

FEBRUARY 8, 2005 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 08, 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in Courtroom B of the Walton County Courthouse.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen, Chairman, Commissioner Scott Brannon, Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Larry Jones, Commissioner Cindy Meadows, and Commissioner Rosier Cuchens. Mr. Ronnie Bell, County Administrator, Attorney Gary Vorbeck, Legal Services Director, and Ms. Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts, were also present.

Commissioner Meadows led with prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Pridgen called the meeting to order.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Brannon, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pridgen Aye, and Meadows Aye.

1. EAL Approval

General Fund	\$ 504,912.56
County Transportation	\$ 620,730.00
SHIP	\$ 13,600.00
Fine & Forfeiture	\$ 884,342.25
Debt Service Hospital	\$ -
Mosq. Control State	\$ -
Mott Sign Grant	\$ -
Section 8 Housing	\$ 25,187.27
Tourist Dev. Council	\$ 301,304.21
N.W. Mosquito Control	\$ 906.89
W. Co. Library	\$ 12,935.32
Recreation Plat Fee	\$ -
Public Safety- 911	\$ 19,013.02
Solid Waste Enterprise	\$ 188,003.47
Mossy Head VFD	\$ 1,350.66

New Beginning Church—Ms. Finney presented a request to extend Development Permit Number 1721. Staff recommended approval. There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the request for an extension to Development Permit Number 1721. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pridgen Aye, and Meadows Aye.

Ms. Finney presented the final plat for Phase II of the Woods for approval. The proposed project consists of a 20-lot single family subdivision located on the southern side of Point Washington. Ms. Finney stated that water and sewer were provided by Florida Community Services Corporation and the plat had been signed by all pertinent parties. Staff recommended approval. There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Brannon, to approve the final plat for Phase II of The Woods for recording. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Rees Aye, Pauls Aye, Cuchens Aye, and Pridgen Aye.

Ms. Finney presented a request from the South Walton Athletic Center to extend their development order.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Brannon, to approve the request for an extension to the development order. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Meadows Naye, Cuchens Aye, and Pridgen Aye.

Ms. Finney gave an update on the status of the small and large scale land use amendments. She stated that with the Board's permission, the Planning Commission could hold their first public workshops beginning at the end of February to discuss the

amendments. The Board authorized the Planning Department to proceed with the advertisements to hold the public workshops.

Mr. Russ Barry, Public Works Director, presented six responsive proposals that had been received by Purchasing for the Road Condition Assessment Study, a study of the condition of all of the paved roads in Walton County. Public Works requested that the BCC approve the hiring of IMS Engineering, Incorporated to conduct the assessment. IMS estimated the cost at \$101,180.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the hiring of IMS Engineering Incorporated to conduct the assessment. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pridgen Aye, and Meadows Aye.

Mr. Barry presented Public Works' recommendation that the BCC allow them to extend the performance period of several contract engineering firms for an extra two years without going through the bidding process. Most of the contracts were concluded in 2003 and were for a two-year period with the option to extend them for an additional period of two years or allow them to expire and require interest firms to re-compete for the contracts.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Jones, to allow Public Works to extend the performance period of the firms for an extra two years without going through the bidding process. Ayes 5, Naves 0. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pridgen Aye, and Meadows Aye.

Mr. Barry presented four valid bids that were received for the paving and other roadway improvements to the Beach Highlands subdivision encompassing Hilltop Drive, North Bishop road, Crescent Road, Dune Drive, Baird Road, and Sunrise Circle. The

lowest responsive bid for this work was \$1,393,377.61. Public Works recommended that the low bid be accepted and that the Board award a contract to Coastal Materials for an amount not to exceed \$1,393,377.61. Mr. Barry noted that there was no money remaining in the Public Works budget for paving of the roads in this project. If approved for execution, money for this project would need to be brought from the Walton County reserve account.

Discussion was held regarding the related costs and a timeframe of paving the road using in house resources. Mr. Barry advised that although the cost may be less than contracting out the project, Public Works would probably not be able to begin the project until late spring. It was the general consensus of the Board that Mr. Barry would provide an estimated figure on using in house resources at the next BCC Meeting.

Commissioner Meadows stated that she had received several complaints that there was still debris floating in the Coastal Dune Lakes as a result of Hurricane Ivan and asked Mr. Barry to check on the issue. She also inquired about the drainage issue on Holiday Road. Mr. Barry stated that they would begin the project as soon as they received a permit.

Commissioner Brannon informed the Board that Mr. Barry was preparing to bring back some options to help resolve the on going stormwater problem on Pompano Street.

Mr. Gary Mattison, Human Resources Director, presented for final approval some revised language amending Section 5.5, Travel Reimbursement, of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

Motion by Commissioner Cuchens, second by Commissioner Brannon, to adopt the revised language amending 5.5 of the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Meadows Aye, Cuchens Aye, and Pridgen Aye.

Mr. Mattison addressed the issue of the Employee Performance Evaluation System and Employee Retention. After brief discussion, it was the Board's decision for Mr. Mattison to bring back additional information regarding the matter.

Mr. Eddie Rivers, South Walton Fire District, requested that the Board appoint one commissioner to serve as a member on the newly initiated Automated External Defibrillator Task Force. Commissioner Meadows volunteered to serve.

Mr. Ed Baltzley, Emergency Response Director, addressed the Board and introduced the new Fire Manger, Mr. Mike Slover.

Mr. Ronnie Bell, County Administrator, presented a letter from the Sarasota County Government encouraging the Board to urge the 2005 Florida legislature to pass a bill providing statutory authorization for local governments to use photographic enforcement mechanisms. The letter included a copy of a resolution adopted by the Sarasota County Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Bell stated that if the Board was interested a similar resolution could be drafted.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Meadows, to adopt a resolution (2005-11) urging the 2005 Florida Legislature to adopt legislation which authorizes local governments to use photographic traffic control systems. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Cuchens Aye, Pridgen Aye, and Meadows Aye.

Mr. Bell requested that the Regular BCC Meeting scheduled for March 8th be canceled due to the commissioners attending the National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference in Washington DC.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Jones, to cancel the Regular Meeting scheduled for March 8, 2005. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Meadows Aye, Brannon Aye, Cuchens Aye, and Pridgen Aye.

Mr. Bell advised that he had received a call from Mr. Gillis Douglass regarding the Children & Families building located on North Davis Lane and Highway 90. He stated that Mr. Gillis was interested in selling his 16,000 square foot building along with 5 acres of land. Brief discussion was held regarding possible uses for the building. The Board directed Mr. Bell to come back with additional information.

Mr. Bell for informational purposes presented appraisals for the Toledo and 6th Street lots. The appraised value of the .25 acre on Toledo Avenue was \$19,000; the appraised value of the .85 acre on 6th Street was \$66,000.

Mr. Bell presented architect proposals from Hatch Mott MacDonald and McCall Architects and Associates, Inc. for the Animal Control Facility. Mr. Bell recommended that the Board move forward with the proposal submitted by Hatch Mott MacDonald. The total cost of the design services would be \$91,800.

Motion by Commissioner Jones to move forward with the proposal submitted by Hatch Mott MacDonald and for Rick Millard, Construction Manger, to work with the group. Commissioner Cuchens second the motion. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Brannon Aye, Meadows Aye, Cuchens Aye, and Pridgen Aye.

Mr. Bell noted that his sixth item on the agenda, Homestead Reduced Assessment for Elderly Housing, had been pulled from the agenda and would be presented at a later date.

Mr. Bell presented a request from the Walton County Beach Safety Committee that the Board appoint Angela Rogers and Michelle Mueller to serve as members on the committee. Mr. Bell recommended that the Board approve the request.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the recommendation and appoint Angela Rogers and Michelle Mueller to serve on the Walton County Beach Safety Committee. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Meadows Aye, Brannon Aye, Cuchens Aye, and Pridgen Aye.

Mr. Bell advised that Ms. Dede Hinote with the Administration Office would be in contact with each commissioner in regards to scheduling a meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Bell turned the floor over to Ms. Shirl Williams, Assistant County Administrator, to give an update on the meeting that was held with the owner of the D&D Pet Motel. Ms. Williams stated that the owner, Mr. Bushy, had expressed interest in leasing the facility to the county with the option to extend the lease for an additional year. She stated that another meeting would be held with Mr. Bushy the next day. She said that they should have a full report for the Board's consideration at the February 22nd meeting.

Commissioner Jones addressed a letter that had been received from Mr. Bob Bonezzi. In the letter, Mr. Bonezzi had expressed interest in installing a sewage treatment plant in the commerce park in Mossy Head. Commissioner Jones requested that staff meet with Mr. Bonezzi to discuss the plans in detail and explore the options.

The floor was opened to public comments.

Mr. David Kramer addressed the Board regarding an issue with the county road department. Mr. Kramer claimed that the county excavated a drainage ditch on his

property at the southwest intersection of CR 393 and Churchill Bayou Road without permission and was refusing to repair the damage. He stated that he was verbally assured by Roy Brown and Russ Barry that his property would be restored to its original condition once the paving project was complete. He said he was also assured by the contractor that the ditch would be filled in and the road would be graded. He asked that the Board direct Mr. Barry to keep his word and grade the road. After further discussion, it was the general consensus of the Board to ask Roy Brown to review the situation and determine if the County had a responsibility to grade the road.

Mr. Don Crim addressed the Board to speak about ADA and UFAS standards. He stated that the Board needed to adopt a resolution accepting either of the two standards and abide by them. Mr. Crim also spoke about handicap parking spaces. He stated that this was also an issue that needed to be addressed by the County. Mr. Bell stated that Mr. Mattison was working with the ADA Committee to address the parking lot issue. He stated that one of the main issues was enforcement.

Mr. James Chandler addressed the Board to request county assistance with repaving the roads in Creekside Subdivision. He also requested assistance with posting stop signs in the subdivision. Commissioner Brannon agreed that the roads were in terrible shape but explained that they were privately owned and were not up to county standards. He requested that Mr. Barry assist them with posting stop signs. Discussion was held regarding initiating a MSBU funds program to help with the road paving. Commissioner Brannon told Mr. Chandler that he would contact him with the information about the program.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

APPROVED: _____
Kenneth Pridgen, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Court