MAY 24, 2016 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on May 26, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Walton County Courthouse in DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

The following Board Members were present: Commissioner Sara Comander, Chairman; Commissioner Cecilia Jones, Vice-Chairman; Commissioner W. N. (Bill) Chapman; Commissioner Bill Imfeld; and Commissioner Cindy Meadows. Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator, and Attorney Mark Davis, County Attorney, were also present.

Chairman Comander announced there would be a Memorial Day Ceremony at Gum Creek at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday and a ceremony at the courthouse in DeFuniak Springs at 10:00 a.m. for those who wish to attend.

Chairman Comander also announced Red Nose Day and how it originated in an effort to help feed starving children.

The meeting was called to order and Chairman Comander recognized former Commissioner Rabbit Miles who was in the audience.

Mr. Larry Jones presented the following additions/deletions to the agenda.

Additions:

Under Consent Agenda
1. 4.6 (16-0763) Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Maintenance Agreement with Northwest Florida Water Management District

Under Citizen Request
1. (16-0765) Jay Liles, Seaside Institute – Presentations for various levels of transit

Under Planning and Development
4. (16-0764) Resignation of Gerald Burwell from the Design Review Board
5. (16-0770) Selection of the Transportation Planning Consultant RFQ 016-017

Deletions:

Under Legal Services

May 24, 2016 – Regular Meeting
Prepared by: D. Cordle
1. Remove the approval of the contract with Mr. Head for the purchase of property.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to approve the additions and deletions to the agenda as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the Consent Agenda with the changes. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

1. Approve the Expenditure Approval List (EAL) excluding the Waste Management expenditures

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2. Approve Minutes of the May 10, 2016 Regular Meeting
3. Approve the Investment Report for Quarter ended March 31, 2016 as requested by the Clerk’s Office
4. Request approval to surplus attached list of vehicles and dump trucks for the 2016 County Auction to be held June 2, 2016
5. Request approval to transfer $125,000.00 from the Public Works Road Material Account for the CR 1818C SCOP Improvement Project
6. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the State-Funded Sub grant Agreement from the FL Division of Emergency Management (Contract number 17-CP-11-01-76-23-XXX)
7. Request to approve Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 015-034 for McKinnon Bridge Road Improvements increasing the contract time 13 calendar days
8. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement with Information Transport Solutions for E-Rate services for the libraries
9. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the interlocal agreement between Chipola College and Walton County Fire Rescue (Ride-Along Agreement)

10. Request to award, approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Contract No. 016-016 for CR 181C SCOP Improvement Project with Roberts and Roberts, Inc. in the amount of $2,204,604.72

11. Request to approve for Facilities Maintenance to purchase two vehicles from the Building Department at a total cost of $3,000.00

12. Request to approve the purchase of two spill containment pallets for the North Walton Mosquito Control pesticide building in the amount of $1,154.00 each

13. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Maintenance Agreement with Northwest Florida Water Management District

Commissioner Chapman reported his conflict of interest in voting on the Waste Management EAL's and submitted Form 8B to the clerk.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the Waste Management Expenditure Approval List. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye, Chapman abstained. (FORM 8B: Chapman) (Note: There were no Waste Management invoices presented for payment)

Chairman Comander recused herself and stepped down as Chair. Vice-Chair Jones accepted the position of Chair and presented the Minutes of April 28, 2016 Special Meeting for approval. Commissioner Imfeld also recused himself and Form 8B was submitted by both commissioners.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the Minutes of the April 28, 2016 Special Meeting. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye. Commissioner’s Comander and Imfeld recused themselves.

Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator, advised that additional BCC meetings may be needed due to the large number of upcoming planning projects.
Discussion followed regarding the large number of projects that are being considered, the length of time it may take for public comment, the need to hold the hearings after 5:00 p.m. on a date certain, and the need to allow the applicant ample time for advertising.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve holding Special Land Use Hearings on June 21st and July 19th at 5:00 p.m. at the South Walton Coastal Annex. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.


Mr. Jones requested direction regarding the additional space needs for the Planning Department. Options for acquiring additional space include either purchasing or leasing the facility in Freeport, purchasing raw land to construct a facility, expand the current facility, or leave the situation as it is at the present time.

Chairman Comander felt a lease/purchase option in Freeport might be better in the event south Walton decides to incorporate. She asked about the drawing in the original master plan for a second building at the annex in south Walton. She also discussed the possibility of modular buildings where the old Code Enforcement Office was located adjacent to the annex.

Commissioner Imfeld commented on the expense of building out the facility in Freeport under a lease agreement than having to relocate and there is not enough information about buying land and building.
Commissioner Meadows suggested using modular buildings at the annex where Code Enforcement was then consider either buying the building in Freeport or constructing one at the south Walton Annex. She voiced concern about spending money to build out someone else's building.

Commissioner Imfeld questioned the time frame to get modular buildings for the old Code Enforcement location. Mr. Jones stated possibly 30-60 days and that would be the quickest solution.

Commissioner Jones questioned the cost of getting modular buildings compared to building out the facility in Freeport. She stated that she favors the location in Freeport, but would still like an employee in south Walton and north Walton. Mr. Wayne Dyess stated it would be approximately $10,000 to relocate the modular building and approximately $500 to $700 a month for the lease. He also stated that he would like to locate that modular building where Code Enforcement was previously. Commissioner Comander stated she also favors it being centrally located in Freeport with kiosks in north and south Walton.

Mr. Jones stated the cost to construct interior office space inside of the modular building would be approximately $85-90,000 of the allotted renovation expense.

Commissioner Imfeld stated he is in favor of using a modular building adjacent to the courthouse annex, which will keep people located together, until we know what the future needs are going to be. Mr. Dyess stated it is more efficient for staff to be located in one central office. However, an additional office for accepting applications is also necessary.

Commissioner Meadows questioned the timeframe for renovations. Mr. Jones stated approximately six months.
Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Meadows, to proceed with locating modular buildings at the old Code Enforcement lot adjacent to the courthouse annex in south Walton for Planning and Development Services. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Commander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye. The north Walton planning staff would be left in DeFuniak Springs.

Commissioner Imfeld asked staff to bring back information for future spacing needs.

Mr. Jones presented information relating to the DeFuniak Springs Courthouse renovations to eliminate water intrusion. He stated they are waiting on bids for water proofing, guttering, and installation of windows. This issue will be brought back at a later time.

Mr. Jones requested direction regarding the Forest View Properties desire to split the cost of signalization at the intersection of U.S. Highway 98 and M.C. Davis Boulevard leading into the sports park. DOT is currently performing a warrant analysis. If approved, staff will move forward with the understanding that funding will be split three ways; between the county, school board, and Forest View Properties, at the appropriate time.

Commissioner Meadows asked what the Proportionate Fair Share fees would be and if that needs to be determined first.

Commissioner Imfeld asked if DOT would assist in the cost if they find it to be warranted. Mr. Jones stated they would inquire about that. Mr. Jones stated they will contact DOT first before moving forward.

Mr. Jones requested approval to hold a Public Workshop for Triumph Corporation Legislative Update. When Pam Bondi, Florida Attorney General, sued BP and affiliated companies for the oil spill, they were awarded a $2 billion settlement to be paid over a period of
15 years. In addition, Legislature formed the Triumph Gulf Coast Corporation to administer those funds and directed 75% of those funds to the eight impacted counties in Northwest Florida. Funding in the amount of $1.5 billion was originally going to the panhandle counties over the 15 year period for economic development and seed money for large corporations. However, new House leadership has said funds will now go into the General Fund of the State and to access those funds counties must now go through the traditional allocation and appropriations request through the Legislature. If that is the direction it goes, the first sum of money will go into the State Treasury in late summer or early fall of 2016 with the first payment of $400 million. Mr. Jones stated there is a big opportunity to capture a portion of that funding. He recommended holding a workshop for input from the public and commissioners to determine priorities and methods to plead our case and capture what we can. Mr. Jones reminded the Board this is not part of the Restore monies.

Mr. Billy Williams reiterated that these funds are separate from Restore Funds and the stakes are very high. The first goal is to work with sister counties to shield and protect the funds and to provide a specific layout for what will be done with the funds. He said they have been reaching out to the school board, municipalities, and different community groups.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Meadows, to hold a Public Workshop to discuss the Triumph Corporation Legislative Update on June 21st at 4:00 p.m. prior to the Special Land Use Hearing at south Walton. Mr. Jones asked the commissioners to consider projects they want to see on the list and he will get with each commissioner to get their ideas.

Mr. Williams stated that it will be for economic development as designated under state law and the current leadership is looking at creating a budget committee with delegate members throughout the state. He estimated $37.8 million per county and recommended being ready with
a list of projects for when the money does arrive. Mr. Jones stated part of the conversation they are having with the Delegation is encouraging them to create a particular office that will deal specifically with these funds that will allow a multi-year approach to projects knowing they are already funded.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve Task Order No 16-10 for CEI Services for the Western Lake Pedestrian Bridge with Tetra Tech Engineering Services. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to advertise a budget workshop on July 7, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the DeFuniak Springs Courthouse and July 11, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the courthouse annex in Santa Rosa Beach. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jay Tusa, TDC Executive Director, requested approval to convert two seasonal beach code enforcement positions into two full-time permanent beach code enforcement positions. The need is greater than only seasonal positions and with the amount of training, he wants to be able to retain them. The funding is currently in the budget.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve converting two seasonal beach code enforcement positions into two full-time permanent beach code enforcement positions. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.
Mr. Tusa advised the request to sign the assignment and assumption agreement between South Walton Utility and the Walton County TDC for the water tower at Sandestin is being pulled for further review due to not being allowed to use water towers for advertising.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the purchase of a portable sign to be used for advertising for parking and public beach access in the amount of $12,150.00 for Tops’l Hill State Park. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye. Mr. Tusa stated he and Jason also met with the Park Director at Grayton Beach State Park as well.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve and authorize the Chair’s signature on a resolution (2016-37) for the legislative finding for landscaping of U.S. Highway 331 south of the bridge to Highway 98 and other sections of the highway.

Mr. Jim Bagby voiced concern with language in the resolution stating the TDC does not do rights of way. Rights of way are the responsibility of the county not TDC. He recommended using the language “destination entryway improvement.” Attorney Davis advised, using the terms in the proposed resolution makes the legislative finding to implement what is in the budget much better than past language and more clearly defines the entryways, rights of way and medians. He stated the resolution must be read as a whole, not one “whereas” clause for it to be read in context. Mr. Bagby felt the language was overly broad.

Commissioner Imfeld called for the question. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Tusa presented a request for direction regarding landscaping on Highway 331 south of the bay bridge to Highway 98. He questioned if the Board would like to hold a public
workshop or put it on hold until they see the design guide. Chairman Comander questioned if there is a need to move forward? Mr. Stan Sunday, Assistant County Administrator, stated he met with DOT and advised this project is time sensitive.

Commissioner Chapman said DOT is going to do this project and questioned what mechanism the county needs to put in place for it to thrive. He questioned if piping was installed in the medians during initial construction. If DOT did not install the piping, then costs to perform that work could be substantial to the county. Mr. Sunday said DOT retained excess funds for the irrigation infrastructure and additional landscaping, but withheld those funds until the county decides if they will accept maintenance. Commissioner Chapman voiced concern with the rocks that DOT placed there. Mr. Tusa stated TDC would underwrite the cost of maintaining the medians if irrigation is put in place according to the legislative finding. Commissioner Meadows suggested moving forward and ask DOT to remove the rocks and put in irrigation. Mr. Sunday stated DOT was trying to accomplish a project that required low maintenance.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to move forward with the median project, ask DOT to install the irrigation, and remove the rocks and boulders.

Ms. Lee Moore, Scenic Corridor Foundation, stated they support this project and have been working on this for years. They support getting rid of rocks and getting more traditional types of plants. With the Board’s willingness to fund maintenance through TDC it will allow more input for design from the county. She voiced her appreciation to the Board.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Tusa recognized Ms. Kristina Tilton, TDC Lead Administrative Coordinator, for completing the Chamber’s Leadership Walton Program. Those class members will be recognized at an event at Sandestin on Thursday, May 19th.
Mr. Tusa announced the TDC’s recent Meet and Greet went well and he got to meet many industry people as well as local residents.

Mr. Tusa also held a Visit Florida Meeting which went well.

Mr. Tusa updated the Board on some upcoming events: the 331 Bridge Park Workshop will be held on June 1 at 5:00 p.m. at the south Walton Annex; TDC Advisory Meeting will be held on Monday, June 6 at 4:00 p.m. at the Freeport Community Center; and the TDC Advisory Council Meeting on June 7, 9:00 a.m. at the south Walton Annex.

Mr. Tusa announced Mr. Art Miller resigned his position from the TDC and as its Treasurer. Mr. Gary Brielmayer has temporarily assumed the treasury duties as Vice-Chair. He stated he has spoken with Mr. Dan Fenton, Strategic Planner for the organization and TDC Council, and they are tweaking some changes and want those in place prior to presenting a recommendation for Mr. Miller’s replacement.

Attorney Davis requested comments from the commissioners and asked to set a date for a vote on proposed policy regarding appointees to volunteer Boards. He was asked to come up with definition/policy of “just cause” regarding the removal of members from volunteer Boards for just cause as stated in the Land Development Code. There is currently no definition. Attorney Davis stated he received numerous comments and suggested addressing those concerns at the next meeting and offering ample time for language changes. This item may be placed on the June 28, 2016 meeting for review.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Chapman, to approve allocating up to $1,500.00 in District 5 Recreational Plat Fees for signage at Kellogg Bayside Park.  Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.
Commissioner Imfeld recognized the county’s law enforcement and fire departments for the outstanding job with the significant amount of activity this past week.

Commissioner Jones questioned the possibility of DOT including Highway 331 at the north end of the bridge in the landscaping and requested that discussions also be included at the workshop regarding this issue. She also mentioned the possibility of purchasing the property located on the east side of Highway 331 north of the bridge where an old fish house is located. She heard it was for sale for $70,000 and asked staff to get an appraisal on that property. She stated the property could be improved and possibly used as a boat dock. Commissioner Chapman voiced concern with access to that property for southbound traffic.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Jones, to pursue the purchase of property located on the east side of Highway 331 north of the bay bridge and to begin the process for possibly acquiring that parcel.

Commissioner Meadows questioned whether to include the property on the west side.

Commissioner Imfeld amended the motion to include properties on both sides of Highway 331. Commissioner Jones amended the second.

Mr. Jones stated Public Works and Planning will look at it but stated it will be more complicated if the west side is included as part of the motion because there are additional properties that might come into play. He suggested keeping the motion to apply to the east side to make the process smoother. The east and west sides need to be considered separately.

Commissioner Imfeld amended the motion to move forward in the purchasing process for only the property on the east side of Highway 331. Commissioner Jones amended the second.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.
Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Jones, to start the process to determine whether or not the county, in working with DOT, has the ability to develop property on the west side for the public’s good. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Commissioner Jones announced that St. Joe has donated $10,000 to go toward a splash pad at the Gaskin Park. In addition, District 4 is giving $5,000 and District 1 is giving $2,000.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the splash pad with donations and transfer of funds from District 4 and District 1. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Commissioner Chapman thanked the Board and staff for all of their well wishes during his father’s illness. His father is home and doing better.

Chairman Comander announced the retirement of Sgt. Dennis Ward who is retiring May 31st. She stated he will be missed and wished him the best in his retirement.

Chairman Comander thanked Mr. David Kramer for his service and fulfilling his term on the Planning Commission.

Motion by Chairman Comander, second by Commissioner Meadows, to appoint Mr. Frank Anderson, who is a businessman and has financial interest in south Walton, to serve on the Planning Commission. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

The commissioners recessed at 10:10 a.m. and reconvened at 10:22 a.m.

Mr. Joel Glenn, Clary-Glenn, thanked the Board for continuing the Indigency Program. He stated his contract with the county is for 36 months and he would like to renew his contract. Discussions continued regarding the contract and if other funeral homes should be allowed to
provide services if not under contract. He stated they make no profit on indigent services and do it as a service to the community. He voiced concern with other funeral homes in the area providing services then submitting invoices to the county. Chairman Comander voiced her appreciation for the job they all do. She stated if a funeral home provides the service to pick someone up, that is not the time to find out if that person is indigent, therefore they should be paid.

Mr. Joel Davis, Davis-Watkins Funeral Home, appeared before the Board and addressed the conflicts that have occurred. He asked for clarification from the Board and for a clear set of rules to be established.

Attorney Davis stated the contract ends July 2016 and they will look at recommending a set amount for all funeral homes and will continue working with the contracted individual. These services will be bid out again.

Mr. Jay Liles, Seaside Institute, appeared before the Board to provide an overview of the 30A Mobility Project. He introduced Mr. Robert Davis, Founder of Seaside, Mr. Jocam Tiber, ITIC, and Mr. Jim Barbaresso, NHTB.

Mr. Robert Davis thanked the Board for providing funds for a second workshop to address roads and transportation connecting all of Walton County. He spoke about the success of this project and stated this program will again put 30A on the leading edge with new technology. He spoke about the vehicles that will be used in this program and new technology to carry the program into the future. He felt this will also augment the proposal to attract thought leaders, university programs, and think tanks to a campus in north Walton. He stated they already have a lot of support from various manufacturers such as Toyota who is currently developing new technology. He has spoken with FDOT who would like to support this project and will attend a
workshop. He has talked with former Assistant Secretary of U.S. DOT about the new program for funding, who thinks they will be good candidates for funding. He spoke about applying for monies from the Triumph Committee and the need to decongest 30A.

Mr. Jim Barbaresso, MGT, spoke about changes being reviewed by the President that will require vehicles to have vehicle-to-vehicle communication for safety by 2017. He spoke about new technology in vehicles and the mobility trend that can move pedestrians quicker and more safely. Mr. Barbaresso told the commissioners about the Smart City Challenge which seven cities were selected as finalists by the US DOT for a $50 million project to incorporate automated vehicles, connected vehicles, and electric vehicles. He spoke about three programs that will offer billions of dollars for new technology and improved mobility which is an overall game changer for Walton County. Technology and capability is there to meet the county’s moto.

Dr. Taiber, International Transportation Innovation Center, stated his company is working with Seaside on this project. ITIC sees the potential for 30A becoming a test spot and works with cities to implement new technologies. He stated the technology could help decongest the 30A corridor and the entire county could benefit from it. They have attracted major companies to this project as well as start-up companies and venture capitalists. In addition to service jobs currently in the county he suggested adding research and development companies, but the county would need to make it attractive to them.

Ms. Tammie Levins appeared before the commissioners regarding the stop signs on Alaqua Drive. She reviewed what was discussed at the last meeting regarding the safety issues and asked them to be proactive regarding those decisions.

Ms. Becky Haney appeared before the Board regarding the stop signs on Alaqua Drive. She has lived on Theena Road for 31 years and thanked the commissioners for listening to
people stating none of them want a child put in danger. Alaqua Acres or Theena Road is where the stop sign was agreed to be placed which she stated is their private driveway. Her neighbors were unaware of the problems until the stop sign was put in place. She spoke with county staff and commissioners and was told of the decision by the county. Others asked her to present a signed petition in opposition to Alaqua Drive stating the problem was not as big as stated. She presented a map of the location and a petition signed by those opposing the stop signs. She stated it is a quiet neighborhood with not a lot of traffic and asked the county to look at Alaqua Road compared to Whitfield Road. She requested signage be put in place to help direct people in the right direction who are looking for the animal refuge, which will alleviate traffic and to also take the engineers recommendation for less drastic measures.

Mr. Charles Neese stated he lives at end of the road and has been a resident for 14 years. He stated there appears to be no safety issue at this time and a stop sign is not warranted.

Ms. Eda Busby stated she lives on Ruth Road off of Alaqua Drive and is not aware of any problem with speeding and they don’t want these traffic measures in place. Commissioner Jones questioned Ms. Busby if there are high speeders on that road. She said they have not noticed any and those living on the road do not speed, it is a quiet road.

Mr. Pat Haney stated most of the traffic is neighbors with an average age of 50. Most of the traffic who are not neighbors are people looking for the animal refuge. He asked the Board to look at this issue and preserve the community as it is.

Ms. Alisha Goddin, resident on Alaqua Drive, spoke about the dangers that exist and the need for stop signs. She urged the commissioners to speak with other people on Alaqua Drive.

Commissioner Chapman stated he made a site visit and discussed this issue with Ms. Levins and also received emails from both sides. He wants to do what is right regarding the
safety issues, but also find out what can be done legally. Commissioner Chapman requested the County Attorney research the legalities and said he has also spoken with Public Works regarding the requirements for a stop sign. The county has lowered the speed limit to 15 mph south of Don Blizzard Road to the water and installed children at play and stop signs. However, someone has removed them and also damaged the traffic counter. He stated that the public has no right to remove the signs. He spoke with the Sheriff’s office and obtained a report on the number of calls, which 23 of 32 calls were for suspicious vehicles, but no reports of speeding in the last two years. He stated it may be better to place the stop sign at Don Blizzard Road.

Attorney Davis said it would be best if the traffic control study is completed before installing signage for liability purposes.

Mr. Chance Powell, Walton County Engineer, stated engineers typically refer to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices to determine the needs for an all way stop. The manual recommends 300 vehicles per hour before needing an all way stop. Based on traffic generation and the uses there, that amount of traffic will not be reached. The manual also states that yield or stop signs should not be used for speed control. Based on that information, he recommended not placing an all way stop at that location.

Commissioner Meadows voiced concern with liability if the county removes the stop signs now that they have been installed.

Commissioner Jones felt a policy is needed on traffic control to include traffic calming, crosswalks, no parking, intersection improvements and speed limits. She felt the county needs to communicate with the residents and requested Public Works and the Legal Department to draft policy providing guidelines to be presented back to the Board.
Commissioner Chapman suggested placing a sign at Miley Road redirecting those who may be searching for Alaqua Animal Refuge and also install no outlet signage.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to remove previous action by the Board and remove the stop sign at Theena and Alaqua Drive, leave the lower speed limit of 15 mph from Don Blizzard Road south to the bay and leave the children at play signs until additional research/information is acquired and presented back to the Board.

Chairman Comander suggested taking time to replace the damaged counter to get an accurate traffic count and asked the residents to not damage this one, and to leave the stop signs down until the necessary information is obtained. Commissioner Jones wants as much info as possible and felt a stop sign at Don Blizzard Road may be a better option. Commissioner Chapman clarified his motion stating this will allow time for staff to come back. Commissioner Meadows questioned removing the sign.


Mr. Powell stated he would like a three week traffic count. This issue will be discussed again at the June 27th meeting.

Ms. Ann Haigh appeared before the Board requesting approval of a resolution recognizing June 14, 2016 as Grandparent Alienation Awareness Day in Walton County. Ms. Haigh stated she is part of a group known as Grandparents Rights Advocates National Delegation of the USA (GRAND). The purpose of the resolution is to bring awareness to grandparents who are alienated against seeing their grandchildren. Laws must be changed to protect the rights of the alienated children and grandchildren allowing them to see all of their family members. Ms. Haigh read the proposed resolution into the record.
Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Chapman, to adopt a Resolution (2016-36) recognizing June 14, 2016 as Grandparent Alienation Awareness Day in Walton County. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Chairman Comander opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. Jim Bagby, Interim CEO and President of the Walton Area Chamber, commented on the winner of the truck raffle, Ms. Glenda Penton. Ms. Penton is a retiring county employee and the mother of Sgt. Tim Padgett who gave his life for this country. She was awarded the truck and decided to keep it rather than taking the cash. He announced the following upcoming events: Leadership Walton Graduation on Thursday, The Power of Networking luncheon on June 1, First Friday Breakfast in DeFuniak, and Leadership Walton Barn Bash on June 11.

Mr. Bill Fletcher spoke to the commissioners about the serious side of Red Nose Day. He stated 28% of kids in Walton County live in poverty and asked for support of the local Kiwanis Club who supports these kids. Commissioner Jones thanked Mr. Fletcher for the flags placed along the highway in south Walton.

The Commissioners recessed at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 12:03 p.m.

Mr. Wayne Dyess, Planning and Development Services Director, requested to add three FTE’s consisting of two Professional Engineers and one Development Order Inspector.

Mr. Mac Carpenter, Planning Department, presented the budget information for these new positions. The Planning Department is proposing additional fees to pay for it and can present the proposed fee resolution at next meeting. He stated they want to bring the Engineering Consultant back in-house using those fees to help supplement the position along with some fees
for the new storm water requirements for single-family permitting. This action will help the department operate more efficiently and provide better service to the public.

Commissioner Imfeld asked if any additional planners have been considered. Mr. Jones stated they have discussed additional planners for next year’s budget and maybe sooner. Mr. Dyess stated the current proposal will add one Sr. Planner and one regular Planner. Mr. Jones said they would proceed with the hiring of additional staff at the direction of the Board.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the request to add three FTE’s consisting of two Professional Engineers, one Development Order Inspector, one Sr. Planner and one Planner. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Dyess thanked the Board and expressed his appreciation stating this will be a great help to his department. He spoke about the complexity of the code which is time consuming for staff, but the quality of development shows in their work.

Mr. Dyess presented a request to approve the revised scope of work for the RFP for the planning department software. The bids received were over budget so the requirements, including Naviline, have been removed and may allow for better submittals. They have also spoken with neighboring counties to see what software they use. Chairman Comander asked if their software interfaces with other departments. Mr. Dyess stated Naviline software may be phasing out, but understands newer technology will allow for better interfacing.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the revised scope of work for the RFP for the planning department software. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.
Mr. Dyess requested approval of the negotiated fees, scope of work, and award of the contract for Matrix Design Group (RFQ #016-009). The current proposal requires them to do more work. Chairman Comander questioned how much staff time it would take up. Mr. Dyess estimated half to three quarters of an FTE. Mr. Jones said if after moving forward it becomes more than what we planned for, the county can go back and recapture some of the services from Matrix. There would be opportunity to add items back to the project. Mr. Dyess stated staff will be working closely with Matrix.

Commissioner Meadows questioned who the project manager for the county will be. Mr. Dyess said it may be himself but he will need help. He will share that responsibility with another staff member. Commissioner Meadows requested language clarification under Scope Assumptions, bullet points five and six. Mr. Dyess said Matrix will identify the issues then give it to the county and staff will take it forward. She pointed out language that states “in review for consistency with Florida Statutes does not include proposed language to make the Comprehensive Plan consistent”. Mr. Dyess will review that as it appears to be in conflict with language on page 4.3. Attorney Davis stated language on page one is inconsistent with 4.3 and would strike that sentence. Commissioner Meadows asked how they will take public input. Mr. Dyes stated there will be a lot of joint kick off meetings with staff or various Boards, but public comments are not included. Commissioner Meadows stated that is a huge part. The commissioners agreed inclusion of public meetings need to be clarified. Mr. Jones stated he will speak with Matrix for clarification. Mr. Dyess stated their first proposal included a website. Commissioner Meadows stated they need an interactive website where people can communicate their concerns. Discussion continued regarding how many meetings would be suggested, at what point during the process and how the public will have input.
Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to approve the negotiated fees, scope of work, and award the contract for the Matrix Design Group (RFQ #016-009) with intent to remove the stricken language on page one and the requested add ons. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Dyess announced the resignation of Mr. Gerald Burwell from the Design Review Board. He filled the position of Design Professional. Commissioner Meadows asked staff to bring applications back to the Board for review. Mr. Jones stated staff will post the available position on the county’s website.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to accept the resignation of Mr. Gerald Burwell from the Design Review Board. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Commissioner Meadows questioned if Ms. Sara Bowers who serves as a community leader on the RESTORE Committee had resigned since she resigned her position from the City of DeFuniak Springs. Mr. Jones will look into the need for a replacement if necessary.

Commissioner Meadows also asked about Mr. Art Miller’s position on the Zoning Board of Adjustments. Mr. Dyess will have staff contact Mr. Miller.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve selection of the Transportation Planning Consultant RFQ 016-017. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye. Mr. Dyess reminded the Board this is a rewrite of the Transportation Element and Comprehensive Plan, and an analysis of the Impact Fee Study opposed to the Proportionate Fair Share.
Mr. Dyess requested the Board adopt the Fish Pond LDC Ordinance amending Section 11.06.06 of the Walton County Land Development Code which establishes a process for excess materials from pond construction.

Mr. Scott Caraway, Public Works, spoke about the size of ponds proposed in the ordinance stating it can be changed if the Board wishes. Attorney Davis said the size can be reduced, but not enlarged without starting the process over. Chairman Comander voiced concern with a 15 acre pond and is more comfortable with five acres. Commissioner Meadows asked if the 15 acres is per tract or per parcel. Mr. Caraway stated the five acres came out of the draft Mining Ordinance in 2015 that was not adopted. The Board previously agreed not to change the Mining Ordinance and directed staff to draft a proposed ordinance allowing farm pond construction in Large Scale and General Agriculture land uses. The proposed pond size of 15 acres was pulled from Florida Statute.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to adopt the Fish Pond Ordinance (2016-15) approving a five acre pond, up to 40 acres, with a maximum of 15' depth with the ability to sell or give away the fill dirt to anyone.

Lengthy discussion followed regarding the size of ponds. Commissioner Imfeld called for the question.

Mr. Todd Burke presented the cubic yards of dirt a 15 acre pond would produce stating it would take a year and a half to haul that much dirt out. He said he does not want more problems created with this ordinance.

Mr. Caraway stated pond construction would go through the Development Order Permitting process and a one year follow up would be performed. Attorney Davis stated this
would be a code enforcement issue and if the property is not reclaimed the county could perform the work or file a lien against the property.

Commissioner Meadows clarified the motion to adopt the ordinance approving five acre ponds with a 15’ depth up to 40 acres allowing any excess materials to be sold or given away. Ayes 4, Nays 1. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Nay, Meadows Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Chapman, to adopt an Ordinance (2016-13) allowing Dogs in Outdoor Eating Areas, providing for an authorized exemption from state law to allow dogs in outdoor areas of public food establishments during operating hours. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Chapman, to adopt the revised Chapter 13 Ordinance (2016-14) amending the Walton County Land Development Code Chapter 13; amending building materials, landscape materials, and approved colors. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Dyess thanked the Board again for approving the additional planning positions.

There were no quasi-judicial items listed on the agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Approved: Sara Comander, Chair

Attest: Alex Alford, Clerk of Court and County Comptroller