

AUGUST 22, 2017 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida held a Regular Meeting on August 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Walton County Courthouse in DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

The following board members were present: Commissioner Cecilia Jones, Chairwoman; Commissioner W. N. (Bill) Chapman, Vice-Chairman; Commissioner Sara Comander; Commissioner Tony Anderson; and Commissioner Melanie Nipper.

Mr. Stan Sunday, Deputy Administrator, Ms. Dede Hinote, Deputy Administrator, Ms. Sidney Noyes, County Attorney, and Mr. Alex Alford, Clerk of Courts, were also present.

Chairwoman Jones recognized former Commissioner Gordon Porter, Representative Brad Drake, and DeFuniak Springs Mayor Bob Campbell.

Mr. Stan Sunday, Deputy Administrator, presented the following additions/deletions to the agenda:

Additions:

1. Commissioner Comander-Fishing Pier Update
2. Commissioner Jones-Move Donna Johns to the Affected Property Owner seat and appoint Kevin Crystal to the Realtor seat on the Design Review Board

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Comander, to approve the agenda as amended. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Chairwoman Jones welcomed Commissioner Nipper back.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

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

	Total	WM	Total
General Fund	\$ 1,448,747.56		
County Transportation	\$ 621,474.76		
SHIP	\$ -		
Fine & Forfeiture	\$ 288,904.87		
Section 8 Housing	\$ 1,334.88		
Tourist Dev. Council	\$ 1,083,594.27	\$ 19,899.60	
N.W. Mosquito Control	\$ 16,909.61		
Recreation Plat Fee	\$ 1,633.28		
Solid Waste Enterprise	\$ 1,504,358.01	\$ 711,653.68	
Bldg. Dept./Enterp. Fund	\$ 775.71		
Daughette Subdivision	\$ 13,179.58		
Infrastructure Improvements	\$ 109,642.51		
Increment Tax Funding	\$ 11,498.07		
Totals	\$ 5,102,053.11	(\$ 731,553.28)	\$ 4,370,499.83

2. Approve Minutes of the July 31, 2017 Special Meeting and the August 8, 2017 Regular Meeting
3. Approve the Investment Report for Quarter ended June 30, 2017 as requested by the Clerk's Office
4. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign the Satisfaction of Mortgage for a SHIP Mortgage for Meredith Davis
5. Request to approve the Walton County Library System Long Range Plan for 2018-2023
6. Request to approve the Walton County Public Library Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018
7. Request to accept the internal audit report from the Clerk's office concerning Public Works Division Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance Contract and approve staff's reports
8. Request to approve a resolution (2017-70) amending the FY 2017 Sidewalk Fund budget in the amount of \$29,040.00 for unanticipated revenues from Sidewalk Fees
9. Request to approve a resolution (2017-71) amending the FY 2017 Road and Bridge budget to recognize \$50,000.00 in C.R. 393 Proportionate Fair Share revenues to be utilized for a caution light at C.R. 393 and Ridge Road
10. Request to approve a resolution (2017-72) amending the FY 2017 budget in the Fine and Forfeiture Fund for unanticipated revenue from School Resource Deputy Funding in the amount of \$20,394.09
11. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign Amendment 1 to the Interlocal Agreement Concerning the Road and Bridge Ad Valorem Tax with the City of DeFuniak Springs
12. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 016-033 Walton Bridge Road SCOP Improvements with Roberts and Roberts, Inc.
13. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign Change Order No. 2 to Public Works Task Order No. 16-10 for CEI Services for Western Lake Pedestrian Bridge with Tetra Tech, Inc. increasing the contract price \$22,953.00 and increasing the contract time 45 calendar days

14. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign the FY 2018 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program Sub-grant agreement from Volunteer Florida (VF) under the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS): Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for an award in the amount of \$7,000.00
15. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign the FY 2018 Citizen Corps Program Sub-grant agreement from Volunteer Florida (VF) under the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS): Federal emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for an award in the amount of \$7,000.00
16. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign Contract No. 017-023 for TDC Market Research with Downs & St. Germain Research
17. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign the Exercise of Second Option to Renew Contract No. 014-019 Agreement for Web Platform Rebuild with Miles Partnership, LLLP
18. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign the Exercise of First Option to Renew Contract No. 015-027 Agreement for Public Relations with Turner Public Relations, Inc. d/b/a Turner
19. Request to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign Amendment No. 1 to the Memorandum Of Understanding between Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Walton County Regarding Admission Fee Waiver/Reimbursement for Grayton Beach State Park
20. Request to approve the purchase of a Steam Pressure Washer for the Landfill at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00
21. Request to approve the Purchase of Three (3) beach safety flagpoles to replace the damaged pole at Edgewater and to have spares on hand for additional locations and/or replacement(s) at a cost not to exceed \$8,000.00
22. Request to approve the purchase of a replacement vehicle lift for TDC/Beach Operations at a cost no to exceed \$20,000.00
23. Request to approve installation of a security camera system for Central Purchasing at a cost no to exceed \$3,000.00
24. Request to approve installation of an air conditioning unit for the Office of the County Attorney at a cost not to exceed \$3,500.00

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 Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the Waste Management Expenditure Approval List in the amount of \$731,553.28. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye. Commissioner Chapman abstained.

(Form 8B: Chapman)

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Nipper, to approve hearing Commissioner Chapman's item #54 at this time. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Commissioner Chapman introduced Secretary Phillip Gainer, FDOT D3 Secretary. Mr. Gainer appeared before the board stating he represents 16 counties. He has been working with Walton County on various issues and appreciates the partnership with Walton County.

Commissioner Chapman also introduced Mr. Jerry Perdue, DOT, and Representative Brad Drake. Commissioner Chapman provided a report in response to the board's request to look into the connector road from U.S. Highway 331 to C.R. 280A. He received a call from Representative Drake after the City of DeFuniak Springs rejected the \$1.5 million for the connector road. He explained that he had had two meetings with FDOT at which Secretary Gainer, Representative Drake and Senator Gainer were also present. The information he presented related only to the connector road south of I-10 Interstate. Commissioner Chapman gave an overview of the property currently owned by Ms. Diane Pickett. The property is currently under contract for sale. She has a proposed project designed for the property known as the Veteran's Village. There are two proposed alignments for the connector road; a northern alignment and a center alignment. The Veteran's Village is located south of both proposed roads and would have a separate entrance to U.S. Highway 331 south of Coy Burgess Loop. Commissioner Chapman stated this was going to be a county project until the City of DeFuniak changed their mind after earlier turning the money down. He stated he is considering the project in light of who can best handle the project. The county has the needed staff, expertise, works routinely with FDOT, and can handle a project of this size which is approximately 2 miles in length. He stated this is a worthwhile project for the county. The \$1.5 million can be used for design, permitting, and construction. The project would need to be a phased

through several legislative cycles for additional funding. The cost of the center alignment is estimated at \$4.8 million. The center alignment stays on high ground until it nears Bruce Creek. The agreement between Ms. Smith and Ms. Pickett is private, but has a due diligence date of September 15th. Ms. Smith may not close on the property until January. However, the money is state funding and needs to be earmarked by next June. FDOT is in favor of connector roads to allow quicker access for residents in those areas and quicker access to the hospital. It would also provide additional egress in the event of a hurricane.

Additional funding would be sought for TRIP and CIGP Grants over a three year period. Commissioner Chapman stated the TRIP and CIGP Grants provide a 50% match. Matching funds from the county are not currently available, but the county could probably get them. The state would be looking for additional funding.

Mr. Jerry Perdue, FDOT, stated Walton County is eligible for a waiver for the TRIP and CIGP grants. He stated those are county programs. There are other ways the City of DeFuniak could fund the project, but it would be more complicated.

Commissioner Comander thanked Commissioner Chapman for his work on this project. She spoke in favor of the Veteran's Lodge.

Representative Brad Drake thanked Commissioner Chapman for his work on the project stating he spoke about the three elements the state looks for: economic development, public safety, and convenience. Representative Drake pointed out that FDOT staff just offered an additional \$1.5 million in CIGP funding totaling \$3 million, leaving \$1.7 million. Representative Drake and Commissioner Gainer are committed to seeking remaining funding from legislature during the next session.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to move forward working with FDOT and accept the \$1.5 million earmarked funds consisting of CIGP and TRIP funds for the connector road from U.S. Highway 331 to C.R. 3280.

Commissioner Comander asked if the city was willing for the county to take the project. Commissioner Chapman stated the City Council originally turned the money down, but at the last meeting they voted to accept the money. Commissioner Chapman felt it is a matter of who is most capable to handle the project. The project needs to move forward while funding is available.

Commissioner Anderson questioned a possible conflict with the city and felt that they do not have a sufficient setup to handle the project. Representative Drake said any governmental entity can accept the money for the project. Funding was provided through the General Appropriations Act. Statute says the road should be built and they are looking for a government entity to be the caretaker of the projects. When the Appropriations Act was passed and signed the City of DeFuniak met and voted not to accept the money for this project. The City has now reversed their opinion and passed a resolution to now accept the money. Representative Drake stated with two agencies in agreement to move forward with the project, the state needs one to act as a the bank and pay the bills for the project as they are submitted. The agency would then seek reimbursement from the state on a 30 day period. He felt the county would be best suited for that. Due to the CIGP funds being county funds, it would make the process more seamless in applying for the grants and give the ability to move forward with less complications.

Commissioner Comander will work with the city, but felt the county has the necessary resources to help the city move forward.

DeFuniak Springs Mayor Bob Campbell spoke about his excitement for the connector road and his attempts to obtain the funding. He explained the Council originally met and decided to

decline the funding. Their fear was they would be responsible for the rest of the money for the project. The council later found out additional information about the project. Mayor Campbell stated his hope is the city would pass the project to the county at their next meeting. He felt the county could more adequately perform the job. Mayor Campbell offered to assist the county and work together. The project will benefit the entire county.

Commissioner Anderson wants the city's blessing and would like to make this project a joint effort. The project needs to move forward. Mayor Campbell spoke in favor of the project and gave his support and hopefully with the entire city council's blessing as well.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Sunday introduced Mr. Rick Wilson, Technology Support Coordinator, to present an update on broadband. Spectrum, Cox Communications, and MediaCom is offering reduced rates for high-speed internet. They have also donated computers to the SPICE afterschool program.

Mr. Wilson spoke about improvements to broadband in the county. He also spoke about a recent event and the unveiling of the companies offer for rural area children who receive free or reduced lunches and seniors over 65. Spectrum Charter donated 10 new computers for the SPICE Program and the kids can now work on homework.

Ms. Leah Brown, Director for Spectrum; Ms. Carrie Boggs, Sr. Manager for MediaCom; and Ms. Karen Smoley, State Director for Spectrum, spoke about their respective programs. Each provider serves a portion of the county. Each spoke briefly about their company and their attempts to bridge the digital divide in the county and they explained the programs they provide for low income residents.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to close the Lake Jackson Boat Ramp for a boat racing event on August 26, 2017 as presented by Mr. Sunday on behalf of Mayor Terry Holley, City of Florala, AL.

Commissioner Chapman asked for staff to contact the Sheriff's Department to discuss how they will maintain closure of the boat ramp. Staff was directed to contact the Sheriff's Office.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Nipper, to clear 1.6 acres of land directly south of the animal shelter to be used for the location of a 30' by 60' pole barn where horses and other large animals will be housed as presented by Mr. Sunday on behalf of Mr. Michael Gainey, Walton County Sheriff's Office.

Major Audi Rowell stated the property will be fenced. Commissioner Chapman advised Major Rowell the county may have to expand the Mosquito Control facilities and may encroach onto the area where their crops are currently located. Major Rowell also clarified they are asking the county to perform the clearing.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Nipper, to approve to submit a request to the Department of Economic Opportunity for an Individual Training Account (ITA) Waiver to continue the same policy as approved the previous fiscal year as presented by Mr. Sunday on behalf of Michele Burns, CareerSource Okaloosa Walton. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Chapman, to appoint Mr. Teddy Stewart to serve on the CareerSource Okaloosa Walton Board of Directors as presented by

Mr. Sunday on behalf of Ms. Burns. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Mr. Sunday stated he has been working with the Scenic Corridor Foundation who provided input into the landscape project. Phase I is substantially complete and the Scenic Corridor Foundation requested this portion of the landscaping project be dedicated to Mr. Merlin Allen who dedicated much of his time to the project. The Florida Department of Transportation is agreeable to the request upon a letter from the board.

Ms. Lee Moore, Scenic Corridor Foundation, stated they are waiting to set a date until Mr. Allen's family can be here to accept the dedication. She stated they will set a date and work with his family.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Comander, to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign a letter of support for the Scenic Corridor Foundation to the FDOT and schedule a ribbon cutting for Phase 1 of the U.S. Highway 331 landscaping project as presented by Mr. Sunday. A date will be announced at a later time.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Ms. Moore stated Mr. Allen was president of the Scenic Corridor Foundation and founding board member and was very dedicated to the foundation. She stated Mr. Allen lost his battle to cancer and they want to honor him with this dedication. Commissioner Anderson stated he left good people to finish the project and thanked Ms. Moore and the others for their work.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to move the September 26, 2017 Regular Meeting to September 25, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in DeFuniak Springs due to the Florida Association of Counties Policy Committee Conference Osceola County as presented

by Mr. Sunday. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Mr. Sunday presented the Counter Proposal with the City of Freeport for the septic abandonment and sewer hookup in the Brandon Oaks Subdivision. During the August 8th meeting of the Freeport City Council they approved the Counter Proposal to submit to the commissioners. Mr. Sunday read the proposal into the record.

Commissioner Nipper questioned if either the Tap Fee or Impact Fee was going to be waived. Mr. Sunday stated Tap Fees can be waived, not Impact Fees. The City of Freeport has not agreed to waive the Tap Fee. Commissioner Chapman said when it was originally proposed to waive the Tap Fees, several developers in the area requested their fees also be waived. The \$8,300.00 reimbursed to the city will cover the Tap Fees. County staff worked with the City of Freeport staff to develop the tap fee amount. Commissioner Chapman stated the grinder pump was a significant part of that amount. He questioned if the pumps would be bid out in an attempt to save money. Ms. Anna Hudson, Walton County Public Works, stated the city will be using their pumps. However, a bid package was prepared and after further research, that was a comparable price. She spoke about upsizing the pump to address concerns with operating pressures in the system.

Commissioner Nipper questioned how the county would be reimbursed for the loan made to the City of Freeport. Mr. Sunday stated the following statement is in the proposal: upon completion of each septic abandonment/sewer connection after expenditure of the \$144,846.00 the City of Freeport will submit documentation to the county for credit/forgiveness of \$8,300 of the \$308,057.40 water and sewer loan. Instead of the city reimbursing the county, those funds will go to this project.

Discussion continued regarding the county paying for the entire project and the city's inability to help pay. The commissioners also voiced concern with residents who refuse to connect. Attorney Noyes stated Florida law stipulates a homeowner has 12 months to comply with the notice to connect. However, this agreement provides 24 months.

Commissioner Anderson commented on the conditions and stated the problem cannot be ignored any longer.

Commissioner Comander stated she would like to see the City of Freeport be more cooperative and questioned where the money is from the original loan that was never paid back. She mentioned the possibility of an audit. Commissioner Comander questioned using the \$144,846.00 to help the drainage issues in Brandon Oaks.

Commissioner Nipper felt the county should be reimbursed as Freeport begins to grow. Commissioner Comander agreed.

Commissioner Chapman stated he has spoken with the new city council members and they have asked for a forensic audit. They have sent out an RFQ for the audit to determine where the money is. He agreed this is money owed to the county that is being used to do the project. He questioned if it is possible to get a percentage of the tap fee. Attorney Noyes stated the document is only a counterproposal and would have to be put in the form of an interlocal agreement with the city. Commissioner Chapman questioned if the county should ask for a percentage their monthly sewer collections. It was estimated the city would collect approximately \$20,000.00 per year.

Chairwoman Jones commented on the safety issues in Brandon Oaks. She stated the City of Freeport owns the franchise and they should be responsible to hook it up.

Mr. Sunday said the commissioners could make recommendations for changes to the counterproposal for it to be presented back to the City of Freeport.

Commissioner Nipper felt very strongly that Freeport should be responsible for repaying their loan from the county. A suggestion was made to add language stating the City of Freeport would be responsible for 50% of the cost of hookup. The language would also change the 24 month connection period to 18 months.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to accept the counterproposal from the City of Freeport regarding septic tank abandonment and sewer hookup in the Brandon Oaks Subdivision with the amended language to include the City of Freeport would be responsible for 50% of the cost of hookup and the 24 month connection period would be reduced to 18 months.

Mr. Robert Rogers, resident of Bay Grove Road, spoke about the development and problems relating to sewage leaking into his yard. Further discussion occurred regarding the drainage ditch location and who constructed it. Mr. Rogers stated Brandon Oaks developer put it in. Commissioner Chapman spoke about cleaning the ditch and increasing the size of the ditch so it will function properly. Attorney Noyes advised that the ditches are on private property and the county would need a right of entry to access the property.

Mr. Rogers said the City of Freeport agreed for a down payment of \$2,800.00 they would hook up an individual's sewer within 120 days, thereby giving 10 years to make payments at zero percent interest. The commissioners said the City of Freeport will not agree to a no-interest loan.

Mr. Bill Fletcher lives adjacent to Brandon Oaks and stated this is critical and must be addressed. He asked if the county could pass the agreement with a stipulation that Freeport will apply any excess funds to the loan. Attorney Noyes stated it would have to be negotiated.

Commissioner Comander asked that staff visit the site again to review the drainage issues.

Mr. Cliff Knauer, Dewberry/Preble-Rish Engineers, stated they performed a study several months ago on the storm water at Brandon Oaks and to provide solutions to the drainage problems. They designed a solution and permitted it through the Water Management District. They received the permits for dredge and fill and storm water. The Army Corps of Engineers is still working on the issue and could be four more months. Once approved, the drainage plan will fix the problem. Authorization would still be needed for the county to make improvements in the storm water easement that currently exists behind the homes. The drainage easement was part of the HOA, which is now defunct so each homeowner would be required to provide a right of entry to make the improvements.

Commissioner Chapman asked who would maintain the drainage ditch after the repairs. Mr. Knauer stated the individual homeowners have been cutting holes in the berm to drain the ditch behind their homes thereby creating the drainage into Mr. Rogers' property. Mr. Knauer said the berm has been cut many times. Commissioner Chapman asked Attorney Noyes to follow up with Code Enforcement to determine if changing the storm water retention is a code violation. If so, individuals need to be cited.

Mr. Knauer commented on the confusion relating to the loan that occurred for the sewer on Bay Grove Road. He reminded the board that the money loaned to the city was used to put in a force main and release valves for 100's of residence. The intention was as residents hooked up, the city would repay the loan. However, only 30% of the people on Bay Grove Road hooked up and therefore the money was never collected. He commented on the vast number of homes on the bay that refuse to hook up to sewer. He felt an effort should be made to get those individuals to hook up to sewer. Commissioner Comander stated if Freeport is going to give residents an interest free loan then this would be the time to get these people to hook up.

Comments were made about the requirement for residents to hook up within 12 months after the city sends the notice. Commissioner Anderson questioned if notices are being sent. Attorney Noyes stated she would look into that matter. Further discussion was held regarding the state requirements to hook up.

Mr. Knauer stated the attorney for the City of Freeport advised that those homes are not within the city limits and felt the county should send the letters. Commissioner Anderson stated if it is their franchise then they should be the entity responsible for sending the letters.

Commissioner Comander suggested moving forward with sending letters to the homeowners on Bay Grove Road in an attempt to get the necessary right of entries.

Commissioner Comander called for the question.

Attorney Noyes clarified the motion was to accept the counterproposal from the City of Freeport regarding septic abandonment and sewer hookup in the Brandon Oaks Subdivision with the amended language to include the City of Freeport would be responsible for 50% of the cost of hookup and the 24 month connection period would be reduced to 18 months.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

The commissioners recessed at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Mr. Sunday requested the board reject all bids for the sale of unit 2 at the Freeport Business Park. The one bid received was for the amount of \$108,000.00 and was insufficient to purchase unit 28.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to reject all bids for the sale of unit 2 at the Freeport Business Park. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Mr. Sunday requested to declare the former SunTrust First National Bank Building as surplus. Utilizing the building as a storage facility is not the highest and best use. Liquidating that asset and using the funds from the sale would allow for construction of a more modern records retention storage facility.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to declare the former SunTrust First National Bank building, located a 2 Baldwin Avenue, DeFuniak Springs as surplus; advertise and accept sealed bids for the purchase of the building and develop a plan and cost for constructing a new records retention facility. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Mr. Sunday presented a request to hold an additional meeting each month for the purpose of hearing land use issues by the Planning Department.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman , second by Commissioner Anderson, to schedule the third Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Coastal Annex to hear planning and land use matters exclusively. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to present Item #52 at this time as requested by Commissioner Comander. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Commissioner Comander stated Lt. Ewart T. Sconiers served in WWII and spoke about the attack on his plane. She presented history on how Lt. Sconiers flew the plane after the pilot was badly injured. Lt. Sconiers was later captured and imprisoned. He died while imprisoned and buried in Poland. His family recently recovered his remains and will be bringing him home to be

buried. The family asked for a letter of support to be sent to State Legislature asking them to name a portion of U.S. Highway 90 near airport, due to his love of flying, after him.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to write a letter of support to submit to State Legislature requesting to name a portion of U.S. Highway 90 after Lt. Ewart T. Sconiers.

Mr. Greg Lathinghouse stated Lt. Sconiers was from the Spence and Sconiers' families. Lt. Sconiers was a hero in WWII receiving the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart. He later died in a German prison camp, buried, and later relocated to a cemetery in Poland. His niece, Ms. Pam Sconiers Whitelock has been working to bring him home. He will be buried next to his mother and sister in his final resting place in January 2018. Mr. Lathinghouse spoke with Representative Drake and Senator Gainer and supported the dedication.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Billy Williams, RESTORE Coordinator, presented Triumph and RESTORE Act updates and requested organizational direction.

Chairwoman Jones spoke about the round-table meetings they have held to increase participation to obtain project ideas to move the county forward utilizing BP funds.

Mr. Williams spoke about Pot I and the 17 projects on the multi-year plan as approve by the Treasury. There is still \$31 million available over a 15 year period. He stated there is \$12 million in Pot III as part of the \$290 million spread over 23 counties. They have submitted conceptual drawings for removing septic tanks off of the bay. He spoke about the timeline in moving projects forward to the Governor for approval then to the Federal Council and back to the local committee. The state is the grantee, but it will probably still go through appropriations. The first payment of \$1.5 billion was debated heavily during the last session. During that session they

increased the board to seven (7) members. They are currently looking at the application process. Mr. Williams gave a breakdown of recent developments stating 5% of the first \$30 million would be allocated in equal components to the eight affected counties, or \$15 million. He advised that amount will go to 4% in consecutive years and will drop down to \$100 million each year for the next 15 years. He gave an overview of the allowable uses. He reminded the commissioners they are required to solicit projects from the schoolboard, colleges, and municipalities. He spoke about five factors that could shape how Triumph Gulf Coast distributes the \$1.5 billion. Mr. Williams stated there would be no minimum or maximum amount of funding required for proposals. The Triumph Board also wanted to make sure the application was sized accordingly for smaller counties. All projects, both favorable and unfavorable, will be brought before the governor in order to justify their decisions, creating a check and balance. Mr. Williams stated a local Triumph Committee of 9-11 members needs to be appointed. He asked each commissioner to appoint a member and 2 at-large members. He also recommended allowing each municipality and the school board to appoint a member. Mr. Williams explained the next step in working with the committee, developing project and moving those forward to the Triumph Board. He addressed how strategic planning will provide a roadmap moving forward with future RESTORE Act and Triumph projects over the course of the next 15 years while working with the various committees. Mr. Williams advised that the Technical Feasibility Grant was awarded through DEO in the amount of \$40k for the U.S. Highway 331 component. A grant in the amount of \$70k through USEDPA has been applied for. During the next 30 days the board should consider economic, environmental, and infrastructure. As part of the strategic planning over the next 30-60 days the committees will develop a framework and timeline. They will also review the current priorities such as RAE0, TIF, LDR, Comp Plans, budgets, and CIP's. He advised the board would need to commit funding

over the next several years for leverage. He explained how to better leverage and maximize funding. Mr. Williams asked for the board's appointments and structure.

Commissioner Comander felt an 11 member board would be best in order to include a member from the Sheriff's Office and a member from the college.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Chapman, to create an eleven member board including the Sheriff and a member from the college to serve as the At-Large members, a member appointed from each municipality, and one appointed by each commissioner. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Commissioner Comander appointed Mr. Bob Brooke and Commissioner Chapman appointed Mr. Gus Andrews. The remaining commissioners will present names of their appointees at the next meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve appointing Mr. Bob Brooks and Mr. Gus Andrews to the Triumph Committee. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Commissioner Nipper stated it is up to the board to advise the public on how the money is being spent and how many jobs are being created. Mr. Williams stated the EDA is a separate entity and will work with them through the process. It will be the county's job to work within the frame and allow EDA to work on bringing in the businesses. Mr. Williams stated the website, www.myfloridatriumph.com, is available to keep the public informed.

The Board concurred to allow Mr. Williams to contact each municipality for their representatives.

Mr. Williams stated the RESTORE Act Committee for Pot I needs to reconvene to run parallel with the new committee.

Mr. Louis Svehla, Public Information Manager, stated there is a suggestion form on the county's website for the public. The form can be used for discussion items or potential projects for the Triumph Board.

Mr. Williams asked to work with staff and Attorney Noyes on the RFQ for consultants and specialist areas. Chairwoman Jones asked how much money was allocated for additional staff and administration. Attorney Noyes stated any RFQ that is drafted will be brought back to the board for approval prior to advertising.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Chapman, to appoint Commissioner Comander as Liaison to work with Mr. Williams on Pot I and Pot III and appoint Chairwoman Jones as Liaison for the work on Triumph funding. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the 2017 County Maintained Road Index as presented by Mr. Sunday. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to submit a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation supporting the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Sugar Drive and U.S. Highway 98 as presented by Mr. Sunday. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Nipper, to advertise and hold a Public Hearing on September 12, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the south Walton Courthouse Annex to bring forward the remaining \$815.53 in the Imperial Lakes MSBU fund and \$44,466.09 in the Four Mile Village MSBU fund to refund the property owners based on the proportional distribution

as determined by Government Services Group as presented by Mr. Sunday. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve allocating an additional \$7,000.00 for the Topsail Hill Preserve State Park initiative program as presented by Mr. Jay Tusa, TDC Executive Director. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye. Mr. Tusa stated the program at Grayton Beach has been successful.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Chapman, to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign Amendment No. 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding between Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Walton County Regarding Admission Fee Waiver/Reimbursement for Topsail Hill Preserve State Park as presented by Mr. Tusa. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Mr. Tusa gave a brief history regarding an unsolicited proposal from Structured Parking Solutions. In response, the county advertised an RFQ which was reviewed by a committee and recommended acceptance of the Structured Parking Solutions proposal.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to award RFQ 017-025 Parking Solution for South Walton to Structured Parking Solutions. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Chairwoman Jones reminded Mr. Tusa she is not in favor of parking fees for local residents or at least a reduced fee.

Mr. Tusa stated the median on U.S. Highway 331 looks great. He presented pictures of the corridor area. The commissioners complimented the outstanding appearance. Phase II will consist of the medians north of the bay.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Chapman, to call to order the Public Hearing to consider the Leisure Lake Annual Rate Resolution. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Ms. Dede Hinote, Deputy Administrator, presented the Leisure Lake Annual Rate Resolution to re-impose and provide for collection of Special Assessments in the Leisure Lake Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) to provide for construction of impoundment improvements for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017. There was no rate increase.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to adopt the Leisure Lake Annual Rate Resolution **(2017-73)**. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Ms. Hinote presented the Daughette Canal Capital Improvements and Maintenance Services Annual Rate Resolution relating to the provision of dredging and maintenance activities within the Daughette Canal Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) for Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017. The increase is for boat slips and the rate increased from \$63.00 to \$325.00. A survey was sent out with the majority in favor of the increase for the maintenance portion.

Attorney Mike Weimorts, President of the Daughette Canal Improvement Association, explained the money would be used for dredging and maintenance because of shifts in the bay. They will also pull up pilings currently marking the channels and replace them with buoys. He also explained the Association would borrow the money and receive reimbursement from the county.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Chapman, to adopt the Daughette Canal Capital Improvements and Maintenance Services Annual Rate Resolution **(2017-**

74) with an increase as stated. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to adopt the Annual Rate Resolution (2017-75) re-imposing the Fire Rescue Special Assessments within Walton County Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) for Fire Rescue Services including the unincorporated area of Walton County, the City of Paxton, and the City of Freeport, for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2017 with no rate change. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to close the Public Hearing. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Nipper, to call to order the Public Hearing to consider a resolution to bring forward \$5,307,040.00 in Debt Service Fund for the purchase of properties. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to adopt Resolution (2017-76) to bring forward excess bridge funds in the amount of \$5,307,040.00 in Debt Service Funds for the purchase of properties and improvements located on South Bay Grove Road and U.S. Highway 331 South. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Nipper, to close the Public Hearing. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve and authorize the Chairwoman to sign a letter to FDOT regarding cameras at Pilcher Park as presented by Attorney Sidney Noyes. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve a FTE for an in-house Land Use Attorney as requested by Attorney Noyes. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Commissioner Anderson advised that staff received the part to make the designated left turn lane on C.R. 393 and it has been installed. The light will be operational by Wednesday morning. There will be a designated left turn lane both north and south off of C.R. 393. He thanked staff for working on the project.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner, to adopt a resolution (2017-77) urging the Florida Legislature to enact legislation that would make texting while driving a primary offense as requested by Commissioner Comander. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye. Mr. Sunday stated if passed, an officer would be able to stop an individual as a primary offense.

Commissioner Comander gave an update on the fishing pier thanking Commissioner Chapman for the job he did at the round table discussion. She has been working with DOT and waiting on their legal department. This will help keep the area under the bridge clean.

Commissioner Nipper discussed the deep injection wells. The cities of Paxton, Freeport, and DeFuniak will soon vote on a resolution regarding the well. She stated this is a Jackson County issue, but will affect Walton County. Commissioner Nipper wanted to make the citizens aware she is researching the issue further and will provide an update when she has more information.

Chairwoman Jones said she does not support this and stated there was a request asking for a resolution. She spoke with Commissioner Hill from Jackson County and offered the county's support. She said Mr. Hill didn't want Walton County to intervene at the moment as to compromise any negotiations in progress. Senator Gainer later advised through the press he had met with Waste Management staff and the permit has been placed on hold while looking for a solution to the waste water treatment center. She felt there is no further action needed at this point. Commissioner Nipper stated if there is any leakage of the well we are on the hook financially. Jackson County and the state has said they will not pay Walton's drinking water or contamination cleanup bills. Commissioner Nipper stated she would like to be guaranteed that the county is made aware of any action regarding this well. She wanted assurance the right thing is being done for the county and aquifer.

Commissioner Chapman agreed that Walton County should wait and give Jackson County opportunity to handle it. Jackson County is close to working out a solution that may not involve an injection well. He felt they should put their own treatment facility out there in lieu of punching it in the dirt. He stated Marianna and Sneads are at 50% capacity. Commissioner Chapman spoke about discussions of Waste Management building their own treatment facility. He is in hopes of them resolving the issue within the next week.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Nipper, to move Ms. Donna Johns to the Affected Property Owner seat and appoint Mr. Kevin Crystal to the Realtor seat on the Design Review Board as presented by Chairwoman Jones. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

Chairwoman Jones recognized Vision Church at Christian International for their 30 years of service to the community for drawing in over 150,000 people creating additional several million dollars in bed tax and tourism.

Ms. Linda Morse voiced concern with recognizing one specific church over any other in the county. She stated there are many churches that have been here for over 100 years that have never been recognized for their service to the community. She felt the recognition was a violation of the first amendment.

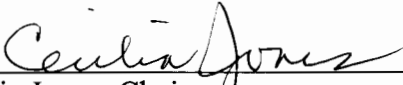
Motion by Commissioner Chapman , second by Commissioner Anderson , to authorize the Chairwoman to sign the Annual Report Certification and to transmit the Annual Reports to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for SHIP program closeout FY 2014-2015 and interim years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 as presented by Mr. Mac Carpenter, Planning and Development Director. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

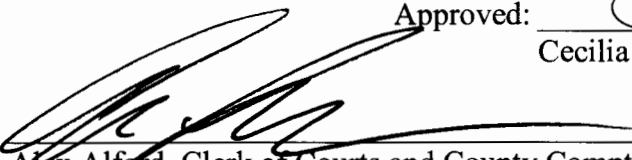
The Quasi-judicial Hearing was called to order and Attorney Noyes administered the oath to those intending to speak. Attorney Noyes instructed that any Ex parte forms are to be submitted to the clerk.

Mr. Mac Carpenter, Director of Planning and Development, presented a request for final plat approval for the Peach Creek Phase IV Plat Minor Development Order submitted by Innerlight Engineering Corp. on behalf of D. R. Horton. The applicant is requesting approval to plat 50 residential lots on 23.17 acres with a future land of Conservation Residential 2:1. The project is located on the north and south sides of Coochee Road, east of Old Ferry Road (Parcel No.: 36-2S-19-24000-008-0000). Staff found the requested plat is compliant with the Development Order and meets the requirements of F.S. Chapter 177 contingent upon conditions being met as stated in the Staff Report. **(Exhibit 1: Staff Report)**

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve Peach Creek Phase IV Plat with conditions as stated in the Staff Report. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Chapman Aye, Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Nipper Aye.

There being no further items to present, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 a.m.

Approved: 
Cecilia Jones, Chairwoman

Attest: 
Alex Alford, Clerk of Courts and County Comptroller