

MAY 22, 2018 - REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida held a Regular Meeting on May 22, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Walton County Courthouse in DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

The following board members were present: Commissioner W. N. (Bill) Chapman, Chairman; Commissioner Tony Anderson, Vice-Chairman; Commissioner Sara Comander; Commissioner Melanie Nipper; and Commissioner Cecilia Jones. Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator; and Attorney Sidney Noyes, County Attorney.

Chairman Chapman announced there would be no video recording for today's meeting due to a lightning strike hitting the equipment.

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order.

Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator, presented the following amendments to the consent agenda.

ADDITIONS:

Under Administration:

Add.1 – (18-0806) – Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a revised Memorandum of Understanding with Waste Management, Inc. of Florida regarding limited hours on Sunday at the landfill

Consent Agenda Items 21-23 – Request to add a maximum cost not to exceed 50 hours for each item, not to exceed \$70.00 per hour and not to exceed \$3,500.00 for each of the three contracts

DELETIONS:

Under Consent Agenda:

#19 (18-0797) – Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution and the Florida Department of Transportation Supplemental Agreement No. 001 to Contract No. AS690, FPID 42378227814, eliminating Pay Item E110-3 Mechanical Sweeping from the contract; decreasing the contract price \$13,984.30

There were no public comments and no items were removed from the agenda.

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

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

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

	Acct. Total	WM Totals	Grand Total (Less WM)
General Fund	\$ 902,884.91		
County Transportation	\$ 459,138.61		
Fine & Forfeiture	\$ 3,465,222.22		
Section 8 Housing	\$ 4.20		
Tourist Dev. Council	\$ 492,836.68		
N.W. Mosquito Control	\$ 2,062.40		
Recreation Plat Fee	\$ 78,062.43		
Solid Waste Enterprise	\$ 666,278.04	\$ 639,052.08	
Sidewalk Fund	\$ 546.00		
Bldg. Dept. Entp. Fund	\$ 1,078.02		
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 2,400.00		
Increment Tax Funding	\$ 350,065.72		
Payroll	\$ 501,073.35		
Totals	\$ 6,921,652.58	\$ 639,052.08	\$6,282,600.50

2. Approve Minutes of the May 8, 2018 Public Hearing and the May 8, 2018 Regular Meeting
3. Request to approve the disposition of records which have met retention in accordance with the State of Florida General Records Schedule Judge Rule 2.430 (d) as requested by the Clerk's Office
4. Request approval to de-obligate \$551,529.00 from the Landfill North Side Remediation and de-obligate \$50,225.00 from Machinery and Equipment and to re-obligate \$197,225.00 for the New Transfer Station CEI. Request approval to re-obligate the remaining \$404,529.00 to Design and Permitting to expand the existing Class III disposal cell with a new, lined disposal cell.
5. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution **(2018-40)** authorizing the County's Coastal Resource Liaison, Melinda Gates, to apply for and administer the Direct Component funding on behalf of Walton County
6. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution **(2018-41)** amending the FY 2018 budget in the General Fund for unanticipated grant revenue in the amount of \$4,000.00 from the Florida Bar Association for the Local Government Student Internship Program

7. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution **(2018-42)** amending the FY 2018 budget in the General Fund to roll forward revenues and expenditures for outstanding balance of discretionary funds from fiscal year 2017 into fiscal year 2018
8. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution **(2018-43)** amending the FY 2018 budget in the General Fund to recognize deferred grant revenues in the amount of \$32,251.00 for the State Aid to Libraries
9. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Contract No. 018-014 CEI Services for Construction Solid Waste Transfer Station with Jones Edmunds and Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$313,688.00
10. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a Grant Agreement (LW682) with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection which provides financial assistance to improve the Cowford Landing site associated with the Choctawhatchee Paddle Trail project
11. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the final option to renew the agreement with Icon Enterprises of Kansas d/b/a CivicHR
12. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement with VRC Companies, for scanning, indexing, and digital storage of county files
13. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Modification #1 to the Subgrant Agreement 16HM-H4-01-76-01-450 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for the Big Redfish Lake mitigation project, extending the expiration date until September 30, 2018
14. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Contract No. 018-012 Engineering Services for CR 280A Connector Road with Dewberry/Preble-Rish, Inc. in the amount of \$625,355.00.
15. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Change Order No. 1 to Contract No.017-030 Helen McCall Park Improvements with CW Roberts, increasing the contract time 63 calendar days
16. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Exercise of First Option to Renew Agreement (Contract #: 016-009) with Matrix Design Group, Inc. for professional engineering services for planning and development for a period of one year
17. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the State-funded Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance (EMPA) Agreement in the amount of \$105,806.00
18. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a Resolution **(2018-44)** and the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement (SMAA) with the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management
- ~~19. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a Resolution **(2018-45)** and the Florida Department of Transportation Supplemental Agreement No. 001 to Contract No. AS690, FPID 42378227814, eliminating Pay Item E110-3 Mechanical Sweeping from the contract; decreasing the contract price \$13,984.30~~
20. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Task Order No. 18-07 for Legion Park Seawall Design and Drainage Improvements with Dewberry/Preble-Rish, Inc. in the amount of \$37,465.00

21. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Admin Task Order No. GW 18-01 with West Florida Regional Planning Council to provide grant writing services, including economic analysis to provide support for the Walton County BCC – U.S. 331 & U.S. 90 Water/Wastewater Expansion TRIUMPH project, not to exceed \$3,500
22. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Admin Task Order No. GW 18-02 with West Florida Regional Planning Council to provide grant writing services, including economic analysis to provide support for the Walton County BCC - Education and Research Center at Owls Head TRIUMPH project, not to exceed \$3,500
23. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Admin Task Order No. GW 18-03 with West Florida Regional Planning Council to provide grant writing services, including economic analysis to provide support for the Walton County BCC - Broadband Initiative TRIUMPH project, not to exceed \$3,500
24. Request to approve the purchase of a new 2019 dump truck for District 2 in the amount of \$148,703.00
25. Request to approve a grant application for the FY 2019 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program Sub-grant 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)
26. Request to approve a grant application for the FY 2019 Citizen Corps Program Sub-grant 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)

Chairman Chapman announced his voting conflict regarding Waste Management and submitted Form 8B: Memorandum of Voting Conflict to the clerk.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the Waste Management Expenditures in the amount of \$639,052.08. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Anderson Aye, Comander Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Chapman Abstained. **(Form 8B: Chapman)**

Mr. Jones presented a letter from Mayor Russ Barley, City of Freeport, who requested on behalf of the Freeport City Council, to meet with the Board of County Commissioners regarding the U.S. Highway 331 corridor infrastructure.

Chairman Chapman commented on the need to consider how to facilitate the water and sewer expansion on U.S. Highway 331. A possibility previously discussed was using a utility authority. He stated he recently spoke with expert representatives with GSG under county contract

and how it is set up to work. It would take the city of Freeport, DeFuniak Springs and the County working together to make it happen. He felt all three entities should meet and allow the experts explain how it will work. A decision can then be made regarding the creation of a utility authority.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Nipper, to tentatively schedule a meeting with the City of Freeport and DeFuniak Springs on June 11th or June 13th in the Commissioner's Board Room in DeFuniak Springs at 9:00 a.m. Staff will contact the cities to coordinate the date. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Jones presented a request on behalf of Mr. Bobby Beasley, Supervisor of Elections, who requested approval for a temporary FTE for the remainder of the current budget year, then approve the position as a permanent FTE for the upcoming budget year. Mr. Jones suggested approving the temporary position then presenting the permanent position as part of the budget process. The Supervisor of Elections has available funds in his budget for the temporary FTE.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the request by the Supervisor of Elections for a temporary FTE for the remainder of the current budget cycle. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Ms. Rachel Gillis presented an update on the Chautauqua Women and Children's Center. She spoke about opioid effects on children and stated Walton County has the highest rate of children removed from homes in the four county area and average in the state. Most children being removed are under three and they need to be with their mothers. Ms. Holly Holt, Walton County Health Department, was also present in support of the system. Their goal is to assist women and children by providing them a place to live to prevent children from being born on drugs. They have 15 beds for moms and children. This will provide opportunities for drug addicted newborns

from being taken away from their mothers. A drug exposed baby will cost the school system up to five times more. Ms. Gillis stated they have \$300,000.00 commitment from the state and stated they would like the commissioners to match part of the funds. Ms. Holt spoke about the benefits of the Opioid Summit and stated this is a step in the right direction for the community.

Commissioner Comander asked if they would be submitting a budget request. Ms. Gillis stated they would.

Commissioner Nipper disclosed that she rents a home from Mr. and Mrs. Gillis.

Mr. Charles Spann of Connected Nation presented information on the Broadband Feasibility Study. He gave an update on the items in the Study that has be completed. There was a tremendous response to the survey with 45% of the respondents not satisfied with their internet service and 95% want better service. He suggested the county: 1) obtain funds, maybe Triumph, and conduct their own competitive grant program or 2) install a fixed wireless network, starting in areas of the county where there is no service. He recommended the county not becoming a competitor, but try to get service into the county where it is lacking.

Commissioner Comander thanked Mr. Spann for the thorough job and stated it's time for the board to take the county into the future. She felt the county needs to begin seeking grants and questioned the best way to get the job done. She stated there is a short timeframe to get grants written. Once grants are obtained they can be used for leverage.

Mr. Spann stated it is critical to monitor upcoming options. He stated FTA had a program called the Tiger Grant designed for infrastructure improvements. The program is now named Build which includes broadband funding. He also suggested working with FDOT or USDA which has invested \$600 million which could be appropriated before the end of the year. Mr. Spann stated the county is well positioned by having the map showing where there is no service.

Commissioner Comander asked if the Regional Planning Council, who is in the process of contracting with the county for grant writing, would be able to write grants for this project. Mr. Jones stated three grant writing firms have been chosen and the county could utilize those firms, but recommended that task be added to their scope of service. He stated staff would bring back a Task Work Order to include that work.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve for staff to prepare a Task Work Order to include Broadband Grant Writing as part of the grant writing firms' contracts. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Nipper, to approve the transfer of Recreational Plat Fees in the amount of \$5,000.00 each from District 5 and District 1 for repairs to the Glendale Community Center as presented by Mr. Jones. Commissioner Comander stated the Glendale Community Center is county owned property. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Jones requested direction regarding the final needs for Phase 1 of the new sports complex in Peach Creek. The lighting component was removed from an earlier contract leaving an approximate shortfall in the amount of \$600,000.00. District 5 can contribute \$300,000.00 from their Recreation Plat Fees, a \$50,000.00 contribution from District 1 Recreation Plat Fees and \$258,000.00 from Contingency Funds.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Comander, to approve the transfer and expenditure of funds as stated for the Peach Creek Sports Complex. Mr. Jones stated Public Hearings will be held if needed. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a revised Memorandum of Understanding with Waste Management, Inc. of Florida regarding Limited Sunday hours at the Landfill. The revision to the contract consisted of a name correction and change to the termination clause.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a revised Memorandum of Understanding with Waste Management, Inc. of Florida. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye. Commissioner Chapman abstained due to his conflict with Waste Management. **(FORM 8B)**

Mr. Jones requested the board consider addressing street signage on privately maintained roads for the purpose of emergency response.

Mr. Sammy Sanchez, South Walton Fire Marshall, stated they have found numerous streets in south Walton that are not appropriately labeled or not labeled at all. He stated that creates a problem when emergency personnel is trying to respond to emergency calls. Mr. Sanchez stated he and his crews took it upon themselves to install street signs and therefore requested the board consider language that would allow public works to install signs on private roads for emergency personnel.

Attorney Noyes, County Attorney, stated she had spoken with Mr. Sanchez and Public Works regarding the issue. She stated the county must be careful as to what maintenance is done on private streets. She agreed to work with Mr. Sanchez to address the issue and find out specifically where there is a health/safety concern. Chairman Chapman also voiced concern with any maintenance on private roads. Commissioner Anderson stated this is an important issue and needs to be figured out for medical issues.

Commissioner Comander suggested involving GIS to create maps for the private neighborhoods. Mr. Sanchez voiced concern that there are areas without Wi-Fi service and they may not be able to pull up a map when needed.

Commissioner Anderson thanked Mr. Sanchez for the job they do for south Walton.

Attorney Noyes will meet with Mr. Sanchez to discuss the issue further.

Mr. Jones requested approval to award and prepare an agreement with Maximus to perform a Cost Allocation Plan Study. A Cost Allocation Study of the functions/audits by the TDC and BCC was previously conducted. This would be the recommended three year follow up. He stated the county's portion of the study would be \$11,500.00. The Clerk does not want to participate in the study.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the expenditure of \$11,500.00 for the follow-up Cost Allocation Study by Maximus. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve to advertise and hold a Public Hearing on June 12, 2018, at 4:00 P.M. or soon thereafter at the South Walton Courthouse Annex to bring forward \$450,000.00 for capital improvements for the Records Storage Building from the Reserve Account. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye. Mr. Jones explained that the cost is expected to be less but wants funding available in the event it would be needed during construction.

The commissioners recessed briefly.

Mr. Jay Tusa, TDC Executive Director, presented an update on Walton County owned properties adjacent to Eglin Air Force Base. At board direction TDC staff researched five parcels the county owns adjacent to Eglin AFB. He stated the Air Force would be interested in a property

swap at value to value. However, none of the properties are value to value. The highest valued property was \$120,000.00. Discussion is ongoing if the Air Force needs the property or not. A decision needs to be made whether to move forward with the Air Force site or purchasing the alternative property north of Eglin's tower site near the courthouse annex.

Commissioner Comander commented that the Choctaw site is located adjacent to a neighborhood and the residents would not be pleased. The site in south Walton was chosen by the Air Force for a reason.

Chairman Chapman stated the tower was probably erected in the 1950's although it has not been a working tower for a while. He agreed the properties considered for the swap would not meet the value to value requirement.

Commissioner Nipper felt the county had not done their due diligence and would like to continue discussions with Eglin. Commissioner Anderson disagreed and stated the county needs to move forward with the proposed property purchase.

Commissioner Comander felt that dealing with the Air Force could take too long for a decision to be made.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Comander, to move forward with the purchase of the property (Parcels #29-2S-19-24000-008-0040 and #29-2S-19-24000-008-0070) for the new TDC location.

Mr. Bagby spoke about the email from Hurlburt and other properties owned under Florida Community Services that could be considered. He asked the county to do their due diligence regarding the tower site owned by Eglin AFB.

Mr. Bill Fletcher voiced concern regarding the value to value and suggested contacting Representative Matt Gaetz to get him involved in the negotiations.

Ms. Suzanne Harris suggested the county meet with Eglin AFB staff regarding the tower site. She also asked if there would be a road cut through, if the county were to buy the Regional Utilities property, for access to the property in the back owned by Mr. Lloyd Blue's wife, Mr. Anchors' wife and Mr. Shipman's wife. Mr. Tusa replied no.

Mr. Randy Gardner spoke in favor of purchasing the property and felt it would take too long doing a land swap with Eglin AFB. He felt the price was competitive.

Ayes 4, Nays 1. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Nay, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Tusa gave an update on funding for the welcome signs. He spoke with Attorney Noyes and Attorney Clay Adkinson and they said TDT Funds can be used for the signs. Attorney Noyes will prepare a Legislative Finding to present to the board.

Mr. Brian Kellenberger, Director of Beach Operations, requested to approve the conceptual design for a new Regional Beach Access to be built in Miramar Beach on county purchased property. He met with Amalfi Coast owners and held a Public Workshop. He presented an overview of the proposed design for the property. The Amalfi's were pleased with the design.

Motion by Commissioner Jones, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve the conceptual design as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Attorney Sidney Noyes requested to set a Public Hearing for final adoption of Beach Activities Ordinance Amendments to Sections 22-54 and 22-55. Changes approved by the Board at the last meeting and were not advertised.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Nipper, to approve a Public Hearing to be held June 12th at 4:00 p.m. at the Walton County Courthouse Annex. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Aye, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Anderson, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the contracts for the purchase of real property on U.S. Highway 331 South (parcel I.D. 29-2S-19-24000-008-0040 and 29-2S-19-24000-008-0070) as presented by Attorney Noyes. The closing will be June 15th.

Mr. Richard Veldman stated the TDC Council has studied this issue diligently. The TDC Council felt this is the best possible location for their new facility. He felt the expenditure of \$1.7 million is a good investment for the county's tourism, which is the economic engine of the county.

Mr. Bagby felt the money could be spent better on other properties. He also stated that the Regional Utilities parcel adjacent to this parcel cannot be sold to anyone other than the county.

Commissioner Nipper asked for clarification regarding the Regional Utilities property. Attorney Noyes explained that Regional Utilities has a franchise agreement with the county and under those terms, if Regional Utilities pays off their debt then any assets revert to the county. She also stated that Regional Utilities can sell property to anyone.

Commissioner Comander said that every time Regional Utilities expands, they borrow money which becomes a part of their debt.

Ayes 4, Nays 1. Chapman Aye, Jones Aye, Nipper Nay, Comander Aye, Anderson Aye.

Commissioner's Comander and Nipper did not present any items for discussion.

Commissioner Jones asked Attorney Noyes for an update on Customary Use and stated she wants to move forward as quickly as possible on the Customary Use to establish necessary procedures. Attorney Noyes stated Dr. Miller is finalizing his research and her office is currently lining up witnesses for the Public Hearing and legal action that will follow. Her office is attempting to get everything in order to hold the Customary Use Public Hearing as close to July 1, 2018 as possible.

Commissioner Jones requested to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign and send a letter to the Florida Department of Transportation which will formalize the state roads in Walton County that will be incorporated into a State Wildflower Road Map to be created by Visit Florida. The map will be given out to tourist.

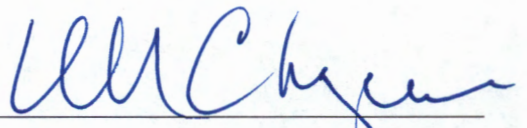
Ms. Vivian Shamel appeared before the board on behalf of the Walton County Panhandle Wildflower Alliance and spoke about the importance of the wildflower project. The request is to designate wildflower areas on certain county roads. She read a resolution adopted in 2011 and also spoke about the benefit of public works not having to mow those areas.

Chairman Chapman voiced concern with the wildflower areas not being maintained well. Commissioner Anderson also voiced concerns and stated they interfere with adequately mowing near mosquito control ditches. He requested additional time to speak with Mosquito Control before approving the request. Commissioner Jones stated she would have representatives from the organization come to present additional information. Commissioner Comander voiced concerns with more weeds growing than flowers. Commissioner Jones stated they can always ask for a certain area to be mowed if it is not serving its purpose. This item will be presented at the next meeting.

Commissioner Anderson and Chairman Chapman did not present any items for discussion.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, second by Commissioner Nipper, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Approved: 
W.N. "Bill" Chapman, Chairman

Attest: 
Alex Alford, Clerk of Courts and County Comptroller