

DECEMBER 17, 2018 - REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida held a Regular Meeting on December 17, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Walton County Courthouse in DeFuniak Springs, Florida. The meeting was rescheduled from December 25, 2018.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Tony Anderson, Chairman; Commissioner W.N. "Bill" Chapman, Vice-Chairman; Commissioner Danny Glidewell; and Commissioner Trey Nick. Mr. Stan Sunday, Assistant County Administrator, and Attorney Sidney Noyes were also present.

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order.

Chairman Anderson recognized Mr. Wilber Williams, a former county employee.

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order.

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

There were no public comments on agenda items.

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

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

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

	Total	WM	Grand Total
General Fund	\$2,070,473.92		
County Transportation	\$ 498,406.42		
Fine & Forfeiture	\$4,086,568.98		
Section 8 Housing	\$ 719.02		
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Prepared by: Dori Cordle

Tourist Dev. Council	\$ 129,382.58		
N.W. Mosquito Control	\$ 351.63		
Recreation Plat Fee	\$ 550,017.97		
Solid Waste Enterprise	\$ 561,128.40	\$ 100,725.02	
Bldg Dept. /Enterp.			
Fund	\$ 249.05		
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 9,860.00		
Tax Increment Funding	\$ 4,648.64		
Totals	\$7,911,806.61	\$ 100,725.02	\$ 7,811,081.59

2. Approve Minutes of the December 11, 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 Jud. Rule 2.430 (c) (1) (A) and 2.525 (C) (2) as requested by the Clerk's Office
4. Request approval to hire temporary contract labor at the Walton County Library utilizing funding available in the FY 19 budget
5. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution **(2018-101)** amending the FY 2019 budget to roll forward revenues and expenditures for projects not completed by fiscal year end from FY 2018 budget into FY 2019
6. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Contract No.: 019-003 for Security Monitoring Services with JSC Systems, Inc.
7. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a RESTORE Act Sub award Agreement with Muscogee Nation of Florida, Inc. to have Muscogee Nation of Florida, Inc. to carry out a portion of the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund Grant #1 RDCGR250060-01-00 (Muscogee Nation of Florida Micro Farm Agritourism Project – Project 7)
8. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Exercise of First Option to Renew Contract No.: 016-023 with Citizenserve, LLC for planning software
9. Request to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Change Order No. 4 to Contract No. 017-021 Walton County Sports Complex Construction with CW Roberts Contracting, Inc. increasing the contract time 189 calendar days

Commissioner Chapman announced his voting conflict regarding Waste Management.

Motion by Commissioner Nick, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to approve the Waste Management Expenditures in the amount of \$100,725.02. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye. **(Form 8B – Commissioner Chapman)**

Mr. Bill Imfeld, Walton County Economic Development Alliance (EDA), appeared before the board requesting a letter be sent to the Argyle Water System on behalf of the EDA. He stated they have sold all of their parcels and are looking for additional property to develop to draw more business into the county. The EDA is trying to determine if an adequate water supply will be

available on the Wayne Farms parcel and other parcels along U.S. Highway 90 East. Attempts to contact Argyle Water System has not been successful and therefore EDA is requesting the board, as franchise holder, to contact them regarding their ability to provide a 10" water line to the property.

Commissioner Chapman stated they have sent numerous letters to no avail and felt a letter from the Board of County Commissioners as franchise holder would carry more weight.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign and send a letter requiring Argyle Water System to provide the requested information to the board, as franchise holder, relating to Wayne Farms and other property located on the south side of U.S. Highway 90 in Argyle. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Sunday presented an update and requested direction on property located behind the Freeport Business Park (Parcel ID 14-1S-19-23000-012-0022). Two appraisals have been obtained. Commissioner Chapman stated the property would benefit the county, but commented on the differences between the two appraisals.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Nick, to direct staff to move forward with negotiations.

Chairman Anderson stated a portion of the parcel affronts U.S. Highway 331 which could possibly be sold, however, the rest is needed for parking. Commissioner Chapman advised that two of the ten acres are wetlands and asked staff to keep that in mind when negotiating. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Chance Powell, Walton County Engineer, presented an update regarding the intersection of County Highway 1883 and Highway 83 stating the paint crew has inspected all roadways to ensure proper striping is in place. He stated DOT agreed to re-evaluate the intersection in six months. Mr. Powell requested authorization to install roadway lighting at the intersection for nighttime safety. It would cost approximately \$10 to \$20 per month for the lighting.

Motion by Commissioner Glidewell, second by Commissioner Nick, to approve Mr. Powell's recommendation for a light at the intersection and the expenditure of monthly costs. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye. Commissioner Chapman voiced concern regarding the type of lighting that will be placed there for safety reasons. Mr. Powell will speak with CHELCO.

Ms. Pam Avera, Secretary-VP/General Manager at Seaside Community Development and TDC Council Member, appeared before the board regarding the TDC Executive Director's compensation. The Council recommended a salary adjustment for Mr. Jay Tusa based on the market and merit. She stated Mr. Tusa has made a difference in the 2 years he has been here. The salaries of his peers in adjacent counties are above that of Mr. Tusa. Ms. Avera spoke about the importance of recruiting and retaining professional talent.

Commissioner Chapman asked if they have a recommended salary increase. Ms. Avera stated the recommendation was 15-20%.

Commissioner Nick questioned if HR had any input. Mr. Nathan Kervin, HR Director, stated he has not had an opportunity to see the information.

Commissioner Chapman stated 15% would place Mr. Tusa just below the County Administrator's salary and 20% would be substantially more.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Glidewell for discussion, to offer a 12% increase raising the salary of the TDC Director to \$143,419.02. Commissioner Glidewell stated Mr. Tusa is worth the 12% increase, but spoke about the county structure and employees who are under paid. He voiced concern with giving a raise outside of the proposal to help all county employees and felt this is a timing issue.

Commissioner Chapman commented on the provision in Mr. Tusa's contract for an adjustment. Mr. Tusa has not had an increase in excess of two years other than the annual COLA. The increase is within the board's discretion under the terms of the contract.

Chairman Anderson has worked with Mr. Tusa for two years and stated TDC is a very professional organization. Mr. Tusa is very dedicated and based on surrounding counties he felt Mr. Tusa is underpaid. He also spoke about the cost of losing an employee.

Commissioner Nick stated Mr. Tusa has done a wonderful job for the county.

Commissioner Glidewell stated he was in agreement, but wanted to make sure the pay structure is reviewed for all county employees.

Mr. Tim Norris, South Walton Mosquito Control, reiterated Ms. Avera's comments and felt Mr. Tusa has done a great job for tourism.

Commissioner Chapman agreed with a wage increase throughout the county stating increased construction has brought in additional revenue over the last few years and consideration could be given to utilizing those funds for pay increases.

Ms. Leigh Moore supports the TDC recommendation for a salary increase for Mr. Tusa. He has made a lot of positive changes. He has managed to increase revenues in the county and she would like to see Mr. Tusa remain in Walton County.

Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Tusa thanked the board for their support in both an increase and the support he receives. He stated he looks forward to continue working together for years to come.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to obtain appraisals on property located on County Highway 393 (Parcel No. 03-3S-20-34000-022-0320) per Mr. Tusa's request. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye. Staff will check into the wetlands on the property.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a Termination of Right of Way Easement. Attorney Noyes advised this is a result of a county road creating a flooding issue on private property. A new home has been constructed and there are no longer any flooding concerns and the new owner would like easement terminated. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Glidewell, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the closing documents for the Purchase of 280 Moll Drive (Parcel ID No: 34-2S-20-33270-037-0000) from Coastal Land Developments, LLC as presented by Attorney Noyes. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

Commissioners Chapman nor Nick presented any items for discussion, but wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Glidewell addressed the possible lease of the DeFuniak Springs Country Club. It is part of the historic golf trail, being approximately 94 years old. He spoke about improvements to the economy and county parks in north Walton.

Commissioner Glidewell motioned to appoint a working group consisting of Mr. Stan Sunday, Mr. Brad Alford, Mr. Shane Supple, Ms. Melissa Thomason, and Attorney Noyes to negotiate the lease and bring back a business plan at the last meeting in January.

Commissioner Chapman questioned if the property would be turned into a park or would it continue to be used as a golf course. Commissioner Glidewell stated the goal would be to maintain the present use with enhancements. Commissioner Chapman stated it is in bad shape and would be costly to upgrade it. He also voiced concern if the county would be competing with other golf courses in county. Commissioner Glidewell stated the DeFuniak Springs course serves a niche the other golf courses do not. He felt preserving the course would help market the area. He felt a lot of the improvements are cosmetic in nature and could be handled by staff and TDC could help with marketing. The facility would also provide a swimming pool for the north end of the county and substantial acreage for a park. He felt it could become a showplace for DeFuniak Springs and help with economic development.

Commissioner Anderson agreed and stated several local businesses had concerns with its closing which could effect their economic standing. He stated a letter was received from the Florida Historical Society encouraging the county to step in. He agreed with establishing a committee to look into it.

Commissioner Nick seconded the motion to approve appointing a committee.

Commissioner Chapman stated he would like the committee to provide an analysis of all costs involved in addition to all current leases they hold. He also questioned the leasing of the restaurant and bar. Attorney Noyes stated she needed direction regarding the bar.

Mr. Chuck Roehm, Vice-President of the Country Club, stated this is an opportunity to keep a part of Historical DeFuniak Springs alive. There is also a swimming pool, tennis courts, and basketball facility.

Commissioner Chapman questioned the costs related to pool maintenance and upkeep and if any repairs were needed. He also questioned the condition of equipment used to maintain the

greens. Mr. Roehm stated he would be happy to provide that information. Commissioner Chapman asked what is causing the sale out. Commissioner Anderson spoke about the number of golf course closures in 2008-09 when the economy fell due to people losing their jobs and not being able to pay for those extras. He felt the county could run it cheaper and the committee will help provide answers.

Commissioner Chapman agreed with forming a committee, but wants them to provide thorough research.

Commissioner Glidewell commented on the difficulties of people being able to pay dues. He stated that is the only golf course for school students to practice. He stated Mr. Alford and Mr. Supple has experience in athletic fields which would benefit the county. In addition, the county could provide laborers that would also cut costs.

Mr. Roehm felt the county would be able to do it at a more reasonable cost and would like to see the county consider it.

Commissioner Nick commented on additional jobs and opportunities that could be created.

Commissioner Anderson questioned Mr. Roehm regarding the lease of the building. Mr. Roehm stated the lease of the building would not be an issue for the county and they are willing to relinquish their liquor license. Commissioner Chapman referenced the county ordinance that prohibits the sale of liquor on any county owned or leased property.

Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

Commissioner Glidewell wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Chairman Anderson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and voiced his appreciation to all county employees for all they do.

Ms. Maura Little, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida, requested to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a resolution recognizing January as National Mentoring Month, and 2019 as a celebration of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida's 30th anniversary year.

Motion by Commissioner Nick, second by Commissioner Glidewell, approving and authorizing the Chairman to sign a resolution **(2018-102)** recognizing January as National Mentoring Month, and 2019 as a celebration of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Florida's 30th anniversary year. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

Mr. Stephen McBroom commented on the article in the newspaper about the Confederate Flag. He stated he felt misled and now lawsuits are being filed against the county.

Commissioner Chapman stated when the referendum was placed on the ballot the entire board agreed it would be binding. The people voted 65% in favor of keeping the flag in place and it will remain. Commissioner Chapman reminded the audience that the state can override some laws the county puts on the books, but this one is binding as far as the county is concerned.

Commissioner Glidewell stated he has always been in favor of keeping the flag and still is.

Commissioner Anderson commented it is not binding by state law, but the county is still allowed to vote on the issue. The board heard the vote of the people.

Mr. McBroom felt the confusion could be minimalized with a public statement in the paper.

Commissioner Glidewell motioned to acknowledge the vote of the people, affirm the vote and promise to carry out the will of the people. Commissioner Glidewell withdrew his motion.

Ms. Ann Tucker, Muskogee Nation of Florida, thanked the board for obtaining the RESTORE Act funding for the Muskogee Nation. She spoke about the importance of the funding for economic development. She also thanked Ms. Melinda Gates for helping the tribe. The project

is for economic development for a fresh source of seafood in hopes it will be a sustainable agriculture learning program for children. She voiced appreciation from all the people.

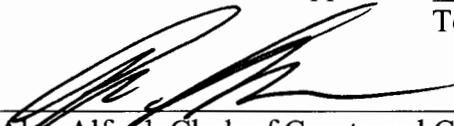
Chairman Anderson thanked her for all she has done for the local and state Muskogee Tribe.

Mr. Mac Carpenter, Director of Planning and Zoning, requested the board approve the amendment to the Planning Fee Resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign a Fee Resolution with amended fees. He stated some fees increased and some decreased.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Nick, to adopt a resolution (2018-103) amending the Planning Fees. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Glidewell Aye, Nick Aye, Anderson Aye.

There being no further business, Commissioner Glidewell motioned to adjourn at 10:03 a.m.

Approved: 
Tony Anderson, Chairman

Attest: 
Alex Alford, Clerk of Courts and County Comptroller