

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

JANUARY 16, 2007

SPECIAL MEETING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in special session with the following members present: Chairman Bill Williams, Vice Chairman Jerry W. Barnes, and Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore, Billy E. Traylor, and Nathan Peters, Jr.

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy McFarland, Clerk Becky Norris, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Building Inspector George Knight, E.D.C. Director Alan McNair, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Grant Writer Loretta Costin, Human Resources Director Denise Manuel, Jail Administrator Evette Farmer, and Planner David Richardson,

Chairman Williams called the special meeting to order at 11:00 a.m., E.T.

MOSQUITO CONTROL BUILDING

Chief Administrator Butler recommended that the Board advertise to receive sealed bids for construction of a new Mosquito Control building. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OVERSTREET BOAT RAMP

Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve the contract with Southeastern Mechanical on the Overstreet Boat Ramp project, in the amount of \$104,970.00 (with a change order decreasing that amount by \$50,940.00). Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

GRANTS / EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Grant Writer Costin requested permission to apply for three grants from the Department of Emergency Management for emergency preparation, stating that one will be \$200,000.00 for the new E.M.S. building so it can be built according to American Red Cross standards so that first responders can stay during the storm, \$200,000.00 for the new Public Works building to be built according to American Red Cross standards, and a \$200,000.00 grant that is a priority of the State, which is for a shelter to accommodate people and their pets during a storm. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

GULF COUNTY JAIL

Chief Administrator Butler presented a proposal (various amounts for various services) from Juliane Day and Rachel Turner for writing and implementing policies for the jail. Chief Administrator Butler also discussed a draft contract between the Board and Denny Durben for operation of the County Jail (at \$75,000.00 per year, a County Vehicle, and County Benefits). Denny Durben appeared before the Board and discussed the proposal from Ms. Day and Ms. Turner, and that there has to be a continuation of training for employees. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Traylor regarding assistance from Ms. Day and Ms. Turner, Mr. Durben stated that they will need assistance from this group. Commissioner Traylor discussed the maintenance repairs at the facility, stating that this needs to be handled as soon as possible. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Traylor, Mr. Durben discussed hiring part-time employees from the State (with no benefits) on a temporary basis. After further discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned to hire Denny Durben as the jail C.E.O. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. County Attorney McFarland discussed the liability at the jail at this time, and recommended that the Board hire a certified electrician to oversee this issue. Commissioner McLemore motioned to hire an electrician on an emergency basis for the jail facility. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Chief Administrator Butler discussed that Mr. Durben stated you have to be able to work with everyone in this position. Mr. Durben recommended that the fire and electrical be repaired immediately. Commissioner Peters discussed that the salary has already been approved for the Correctional Officers and the Board needs to stay with the approved amount at this time.

PORT AUTHORITY

Chief Administrator Butler requested permission to submit a letter from the Board to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in support of the Port Authority in an easement exchange proposal on the Gulf County Canal. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

There were no Special Project payment request at this time.

GULF COUNTY JAIL

Chief Administrator Butler discussed that he and Mr. Durben will work on a budget for the jail and present it back to the Board.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, the special meeting did then adjourn at 11:30 a.m., E.T.

**BILL WILLIAMS
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**