

## **PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

**JANUARY 23, 2007**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in regular 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 Executive Administrator Towan Kopinsky, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, E.D.C. Director Alan McNair, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Gulf County E.M.S. Director Shane McGuffin, Grant Writer Loretta Costin, Planner David Richardson, Sheriff Dalton Upchurch, and Sheriff's Office Deputy Ken Starnes.

Deputy Starnes called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., E.T.

Commissioner Barnes opened the meeting with prayer, and Chairman Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### **GULF COUNTY MOMENT**

Jim Norton, Chamber of Commerce President, appeared before the Board and presented the first "Gulf County Moment". He discussed that the City of St. Joseph was home to the first constitution convention, and that Wewahitchka is one of few locations that tupelo honey can be harvested. Mr. Norton also discussed that Gulf County became incorporated in 1925 (from Calhoun County), Mr. Ed Ball purchased the railroad and the telephone company, and that St. Joe Paper Company was founded in 1936 and opened March 17, 1938.

Chairman Williams requested that Commissioner Traylor bring the next speaker for the Gulf County Moment.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve the following Consent Agenda items. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, based on removal of item #6 (Page 21). This being agreeable, the motion did then pass unanimously.

1. Minutes - January 9, 2007 - Workshop
  - January 9, 2007 - Regular Meeting
  - January 16, 2007 - Special Meeting
  
2. Budget - Supplemental Amendment (\$15,041.40 Parks & Recreation)

3. Funding Request - Gulf County ARC & Transportation (\$10,501.00)
4. Insurance Coverage - County Attorney Timothy McFarland (Health/Life/Dental)
5. Inventory - Supervisor of Elections (Junk #30-48, #30-51)
6. Invoice - **\*\*DELETE\*\*** - Gulf County C.D.C. - S.H.I.P. Program Expenses (\$10,000.00)
  - Preble-Rish, Inc - Money Bayou Headwall (#65013 \* \$2,400.00 to be paid from Account #40341-53000)
  - Preble-Rish, Inc. - Road Bond Project (#65026 \* \$18,000.00 to be paid from Account #41441- 31000 and \$32,900.00 to be paid from Account #41441-63000)
  - Preble-Rish, Inc. - Howard Creek Road (Invoice #65029 \* \$17,663.20 to be paid from Account #40741-53000)
  - Preble-Rish, Inc. White City Bulkhead (Invoice #65030 \* \$1,350.00 to be paid from Account #21111-31100)
  - Preble-Rish, Inc. - Gulf County Courthouse and Jail Roof Replacement (#65031 \* \$8,672.50)
  - Rish, Gibson, Scholz & Groom, P.A. - Parker Street (\$500.00)
  - Universal Engineering Sciences, Inc. - 16<sup>th</sup> Street Testing (#20-0000686 \* \$2,650.00)
7. Proposal - Courthouse Roof Repair Project (Total Contract \$1,735,245.00/ Projected Savings \$102,155.00)
8. Reimbursement - Rick Todd (Damage Expenditures \$133.30 to be paid from Public Works Budget)
9. Road Closing - U.S. Highway 98, at Beacon Hill Park - Beach Blast 2007 Triathlon (April 28, 2007)
10. S.H.I.P. - Rehabilitation Assistance (\$5,000.00 - Marie Foxworthy)
11. Special Project Payments as follows:
  - Dist. 2 Harold's Auto Parts - Wewahitchka High School Girls - Donation \$ 12.27
12. Travel - National Hurricane Conference (April 2-6, 2007, New Orleans, LA)

(end)

**PUBLIC HEARING - ROADWAY ABANDONMENT - AUXILIARY LANE**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider abandonment of Auxiliary Lane in Overstreet, County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice, and called for public

comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Traylor motioned to adopt the following resolution abandoning Auxiliary Lane. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Traylor discussed that Auxiliary Lane is adjacent to where the new Overstreet Fire Department is being built. After further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2007-01**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida has heretofore acquired the below-described alleyway/roadway for use and improvements as public roads; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida has determined that the interest of the County and the public in said alleyway/roadway should be abandoned and closed;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the alleyway/roadway of the below described property is closed and the interest of the public therein abandoned and resolution number 2006-50 is hereby rescinded:

### **AUXILIARY LANE**

The County Property Appraiser is hereby directed to place upon the tax rolls in Gulf County, Florida, the alleyway/roadway as described above, with the owners as resulting by operation of law following this abandonment.

Notice of adoption of this Resolution shall be published once in the newspaper for circulation in Gulf County, Florida, and the proof of publication of the notice of public hearing, this resolution as adopted, and the proof of publication of the notice of adoption of such resolution shall be recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of this County in the Official Records in this County.

Adopted in open session the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2007.

(End)

### **P.D.R.B. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board then addressed the following recommendations from the January 17, 2007 meeting of the Planning & Development Review Board:

### **PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT APPROVAL - ROWE**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider preliminary and final plat approval for Leroy Rowe (Parcel ID #03358-000R \* 157.5 acres in S26, T5S, R11W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve the preliminary and final plat for Leroy Rowe's subdivision, subject to all Federal, State and local development regulations stated and unstated, contingent upon D.C.A. approval and septic approval from the Health Department. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **TABLE VARIANCE - LAMIS & BLANCA**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a variance to the development regulations for Lamis & Blanca (Parcel ID #06269-050R in S19, T9S, R11W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Peters motioned to table this variance request, as recommended by the Planning & Development Review Board. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - WATERFRONT GROUP**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a small-scale map amendment for Waterfront Group (a portion of 1,800 acres of Parcel ID #01094-100R, #01092-000R \* 10 acres in S26 & S35, T6S, R9W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve a small-scale map amendment changing the 10 acres of property from agricultural to residential. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - ST. JOE COMPANY**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a small-scale map amendment for St. Joe Company (Parcel ID #03801-000R \* 10 acres in S31, T6S, R11W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve a small-scale map amendment changing 10 acres of property from agricultural to residential. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - VALENCIA LAND INVESTMENT, LLC**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a small-scale map amendment for Valencia Land Investment, LLC (a portion of 41.77 acres in Parcel ID #03323-150 \* 10 acres in S7 & S18, T5S, R10W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Peters motioned to approve a small-scale map amendment changing 10 acres of the property from agricultural to residential. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed

unanimously.

### **SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - MEDINA**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a small-scale map amendment for Moses Medina (Parcel ID #01041-060R & #00987-600R \* 33.09 acres in S33 & S34, T5S, R9W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Barnes motioned to approve a small-scale map amendment changing 20 acres of the property from agricultural to residential. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **TABLE SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - BURNETT**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a small-scale map amendment for Troy A. Burnett (Parcel ID #03462-175R \* 2.64 acres in S35, T5S, R11W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. Elinor Cunningham appeared before the Board and discussed that she opposes allowing commercial property in the middle of a residential neighborhood. After further discussion, Commissioner Traylor motioned to table this small-scale map amendment request. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Terry Olson appeared before the Board and discussed that he also opposes this change, and inquired about the next P.D.R.B. meeting. County Attorney McFarland discussed that the public hearing is advertised. Bob Seavey appeared before the Board and discussed the land use (general commercial, high density commercial), and stated that he also opposes this small-scale map amendment.

### **TABLE SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - RISH**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to table a small-scale map amendment for Ralph Rish (Parcel ID #02977-100R & #02977-050R \* 20 acres in S17, S18, S19, & S20, T7S, R10W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Peters motioned to table this small-scale map amendment changing 10 acres from industrial to mixed commercial/residential and 10 acres from agricultural to mixed commercial/residential. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - FIELDS**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a small-scale map amendment for Bobby Fields (Parcel ID #01579-140R \* 5.53 acres in S14, T4S, R10W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Peters motioned to approve a small-scale map amendment changing 5.53 acres from residential to mixed commercial/residential. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **TABLE SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT - RUPP**

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider a small-scale map amendment for Daniel & Susan Rupp (Parcel ID #03462-210R \* 1.93 acres in S35, T5S, R11W), County Attorney McFarland read the public hearing notice and called for public comment. There being no public comment and upon discussion by Planner Richardson, Commissioner Traylor motioned to table this small-scale map amendment request. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT - ST. JOE COMPANY**

County Attorney McFarland discussed a proposed Development Agreement with St. Joe Company for an Affordable Housing Density Bonus, stating this is for property which is located outside the City where the new hospital is going to be located. County Attorney McFarland discussed under the new House Bill for relief on affordable housing, St. Joe Company can donate certain lands to the County for affordable housing, and in return they receive a certain density bonus. He stated that the bonus receiving land will be 639 acres (not more than 1,200 units) in exchange for 200 acres to Gulf County for affordable housing. Chairman Williams discussed the environmental study on this property, stating that the County is to select the Environmental Consultant to do the testing of the 200 acres and St. Joe Company will pay the cost. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve this agreement, contingent on good environmental testing and approval by P.D.R.B. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **SMALL-SCALE MAP AMENDMENT**

County Attorney McFarland discussed a small-scale map amendment which is not through the P.D.R.B. on the receiving land on Highway 98 and 30A (Jones Homestead area) for the affordable housing density bonus. Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve a small-scale map amendment changing the property from agricultural to mixed commercial/residential low density. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Chairman Williams discussed that the property will not be annexed.

### **INVOICE - PREBLE-RISH, INC.**

Grant Writer Costin recommended payment of invoice #65032 from Preble-Rish, Inc., for the Overstreet Boat Ramp, in the amount of \$7,500.00. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Grant Writer Costin discussed a meeting of the Strategic Planning and InterAgency Task Force scheduled for February 6, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room to target young adults. The Board had no objection.

## **MEGA-SITE APPLICATION**

Chairman Williams discussed the Mega-Site information, and Grant Writer Costin discussed that the County has the opportunity to select a site within Gulf County to use to apply to Opportunity Florida for the mega-site, and if the Gulf County site is selected Opportunity Florida and Enterprise Florida will put funding toward the development of the mega-site. She discussed the potential property can be submitted to Opportunity Florida with the application.

## **INVOICE - CATHEY CONSTRUCTION**

Deputy Administrator Lanier recommended payment of invoice #2 from Cathey Construction, for the Courthouse Roof project, in the amount of \$31,207.50. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **WINDMARK BEACH**

County Attorney McFarland discussed that the Village Center South and Fisherman's Village at Windmark Beach have been completed and St. Joe Company is requesting that they be accepted as complete so they can be released from the bonds. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve this recommendation, contingent upon verification. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **BARRIER DUNES**

On behalf of Barrier Dunes, Chief Administrator Butler discussed a retaining wall that was constructed, and requested the Board send a letter of no objection to D.E.P. regarding the retaining wall. Commissioner Barnes motioned to approve this request. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **BID #0607-09 - GULF COUNTY WELCOME CENTER**

On behalf of the T.D.C. Board of Directors, Chief Administrator Butler recommended that the bids for the Gulf County Welcome Center (#0607-09) be rejected. Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **PROPOSAL - JAIL ELECTRICAL REPAIRS**

Chief Administrator Butler discussed a proposal from Kenny Strange Electric, in the amount of \$62,270.00, for lights, conduit and re-wiring at the jail. After further discussion, Commissioner Traylor motioned to work with Kenny Strange Electric (on an emergency basis) and utilize County Employees with the work to reduce the costs. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **P.D.R.B. PROCEDURE CHANGES**

Planner Richardson discussed that the P.D.R.B. is requesting some procedural changes which will require placement of 4x4 signs on property that is being considered for a land use change to notify the public. County Attorney McFarland discussed that this needs to be funded by the applicants. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **BEACH DRIVING - EXPOSED CABLE**

Planner Richardson discussed an exposed cable on the beach near the Lighthouse property (on Air Force property), and Chief Administrator Butler discussed that Maintenance was notified and corrected this matter. Patrick Jones, Chairman of the P.D.R.B., appeared before the Board and discussed that this is the orange barrier on the beach, and inquired about moving it. Chief Administrator Butler discussed the agreement with D.E.P. regarding turtle-nesting season, and closing of the beach to driving. Chairman Williams requested that Chief Administrator Butler follow-up with Maintenance on this issue.

## **E.A.R. DEVELOPMENT**

Planner Richardson discussed that the P.D.R.B. is working on the new Evaluation and Appraisal Report (E.A.R.), and they have an August 1, 2007 adoption deadline.

## **HONEYVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER/SHELTER BID**

Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that bids for the Honeyville Storm Shelter will be opened on February 12, 2007 at 10:00 a.m., E.T.

## **COUNTY-WIDE VOTING**

Greg Johnson appeared before the Board to discuss County-Wide Voting, and requested that the Board proceed with the legal process to have the injunction removed, and allow members of the community to fund the legal fees and costs. He stated that this can be accomplished by the public making contributions to the County for this purpose only, and the funds being held by the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Mr. Johnson requested the Board allow the public to raise the funds, and for the County to proceed with depositing the funds into the registry of the court and using the funds for the fees and costs of the Attorney to proceed with litigation. After further discussion, Commissioner Barnes motioned to allow the funds to be donated by a citizens group to be pledged for use in the at-large voting challenge. Chairman Williams passed the Chair to Vice Chairman Barnes, and seconded the motion. The motion failed 3 to 2, with Commissioners McLemore, Peters, and Traylor voting no. Chairman Barnes returned the Chair to Commissioner Williams. Upon request by Commissioner Peters, Amy Rogers, President of the Gulf County Branch NAACP, appeared before the Board and discussed that the NAACP approves single-member district voting. Upon inquiry by Chairman Williams

regarding district line changes (mis-apportioned) and the NAACP looking into the re-districting, Mrs. Rogers stated that this was done previously and stated that with the population count every individual has to be counted (including prisoners).

### **MEGA-SITE APPLICATION**

Jim Townsend, E.D.C. Chairman, appeared before the Board and discussed the application for the catalyst grant, stating that the County needs a plan, and requested that the County agree for the business at the site to have tax abatement for 10 years. After further discussion, Commissioner Peters motioned to submit a letter agreeing to the tax abatement if Gulf County is awarded the funding. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **ARTIFICIAL REEF**

Tracy Melvin appeared before the Board and discussed the possibility of a military vessel being sunk offshore as an artificial reef. Ms. Melvin requested that the Board appoint an exploratory committee to review this issue. Chairman Williams discussed that the Board will appoint individuals to the committee at the next Board meeting.

### **MEGA-SITE LOCATION**

Alan McNair, E.D.C. Director, appeared before the Board and discussed that St. Joe Company has agreed to donate 250 acres for the Mega-Site location in the North end of the County, if the County is awarded the funding.

### **HOWARD CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT/GRANT EXPENDITURE**

Billy Moore, Fire Chief Howard Creek Fire Department, appeared before the Board and requested permission to purchase equipment using \$4,900.00 from the Howard Creek Fire Department funds and \$4,900.00 from their General Fund allocation. (a 50% reimbursement grant will be used to offset a portion of these costs). Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this request. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **GULF COUNTY A.R.C.**

Dianna Harrison, of Gulf County A.R.C., appeared before the Board and discussed the new facility being constructed, stating that they have a grant in the amount of \$269,000.00 and a loan in the amount of \$254,000.00. Ms. Harrison requested that the Board waive the building permit fees and assist in paving the rear parking area. Commissioner McLemore motioned to waive the building permit fees. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Peters discussed that the building permit fees would have been approximately \$3,706.50. After further discussion, the Board requested a cost estimate on

paving the rear parking lot area. Chairman Williams requested that Commissioner Peters meet with the City of Port St. Joe regarding this project.

### **S.H.I.P. PROGRAM**

Amy Rogers appeared before the Board and discussed issues regarding the S.H.I.P. program, stating that she believes it worked better when it was handled in-house by the County.

### **GULF COUNTY A.R.C. / IMPACT FEES**

Upon inquiry by Doug Kent regarding waiving of the impact fees for Gulf County A.R.C., Commissioner McLemore motioned to also waive the impact fees, and Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. Chief Administrator Butler reported that this is within the City limits of Port St. Joe. Commissioner Traylor then withdrew the second, and Commissioner McLemore withdrew the motion.

### **COMMITTEES**

Commissioner Traylor discussed the number of committees that have been appointed by the Board, and that these committees need to be active or they need to be disbanded. Chairman Williams discussed that these committees are important, and requested that letters be submitted to the individuals on the committees.

### **CONTRACT AWARD**

Commissioner Traylor discussed the Board awarding the Courthouse roof contract to Cathey Construction, and that he has received good feedback for standing by local people and businesses.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Commissioner Peters thanked Staff Assistant Brenda Miller for the great job she is doing.

### **SACRED HEART HOSPITAL**

Commissioner Peters thanked Grant Writer Costin, Commissioner Traylor, Commissioner Barnes, and himself for attending a meeting at the Gulf/Franklin Community College regarding Sacred Heart Hospital and the St. Joe Foundation. He stated that a check, in the amount of \$500,000.00 was presented by St. Joe Foundation to Sacred Heart for the new facility, and reported that it will be a 25-bed facility, projected to open in the fall of 2008, and will be approximately 49,000 square feet.

### **DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. / PRESS**

Commissioner Peters discussed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the twenty year history. He stated that the Gulf County Breeze had a commemoration to Dr. King on the front page, and that The Star had nothing in the newspaper. Commissioner Peters motioned to send a letter to the editor of the Panama City News Herald from the Board regarding this matter. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **HIGHWAY 71 RAILROAD CROSSINGS**

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Barnes regarding the railroad crossings on Highway 71, he stated that he has received complaints regarding the crossings. Commissioner Traylor motioned for the Board to submit a letter to D.O.T. regarding the poor condition of the railroad crossings. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Barnes discussed that he will leave the email address with Deputy Administrator Lanier, because complaints received from citizens will help move this up on the priority list.

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Upon motion by Commissioner Barnes, second by Commissioner Traylor, and unanimous vote, the Board approved the following Special Projects Payments:

Dist. 2	Port St. Joe Middle School - Donation	\$100.00
Dist. 3	Port St. Joe Middle School - Donation	\$100.00
Dist. 4	Port St. Joe Middle School - Donation	\$100.00
Dist. 5	Port St. Joe Middle School - Donation	\$100.00

(End)

### **SACRED HEART HOSPITAL**

Commissioner Barnes discussed the meeting with Sacred Heart Hospital and St. Joe Foundation representatives, and reported that Dr. Henry Roberts is working hard to get this project moving forward.

### **A.R.P.C. APPOINTMENT**

Chairman Williams discussed that the City of Wewahitchka is requesting that the Board submit a letter to Governor Crist supporting the re-appointment of Ben Rainie to the A.R.P.C. committee. Commissioner Traylor motioned to submit this letter. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **SPRUCE LANE**

Chairman Williams discussed that he has be contacted by the homeowners on Spruce Lane (Creekwood Estates), stating that they are requesting assistance from the Board to provide sand where the road has eroded (private road). Commissioner Traylor discussed that he will check on this issue and bring a recommendation back to the Board.

## **HIGHLAND VIEW WASTEWATER**

Chairman Williams discussed that the City of Port St. Joe will be opening the sealed bids on the Highland View sewer system at their 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in February. Chairman Williams requested that Michael Hammond of Preble-Rish, Inc., give a report to the County after the City's meeting.

## **WHITE CITY BULKHEAD**

Upon inquiry by Chairman Williams regarding the White City bulkhead, Michael Hammond of Preble-Rish, Inc., discussed that this will be presented at the next Board meeting.

## **JAIL OPERATIONS**

Upon inquiry by Chairman Williams regarding an update on the jail, Chief Administrator Butler reported that they are proceeding with the jail. Deputy Administrator Lanier discussed that the telephones, fax, and DSL will be installed tomorrow, and the extensions will be taken care of after that. Chief Administrator Butler discussed that it is going to be the first of February before Mr. Durben can begin work. Commissioner Barnes thanked Chief Administrator Butler and Deputy Administrator Lanier for all the work they have put into this project.

## **SHERIFF'S OFFICE AUDIT**

Chairman Williams discussed a 120-day corrective action plan that is to be sent to F.D.L.E. regarding the Sheriff's special audit, and read a letter submitted to the Board from Sheriff Upchurch regarding meeting with the Auditors. Sheriff Upchurch appeared before the Board and discussed the audit. Commissioner Traylor discussed monthly check-ups by the Auditors. After further discussion, County Attorney McFarland discussed that there would need to be a proposal from the Auditors for the additional work they are requesting (\$2,400.00 over budget has already been expended).

## **NEWSPAPER**

Commissioner Traylor requested that all Commissioners sign the letter that is submitted to the News Herald regarding The Star newspaper and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. matter.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner Peters, the meeting did then adjourn at 8:07 p.m., E.T.

**BILL WILLIAMS**  
**CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

**REBECCA L. NORRIS**  
**CLERK**