

JULY 24, 2012

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

REGULAR MEETING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in regular session with the following members present: Chairman William C. Williams, III, Vice Chairman Tan Smiley, and Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore, Ward McDaniel, and Warren J. Yeager, Jr.

Others present were: County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Clerk Rebecca L. Norris, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Assistant Administrator Michael Hammond, Code Enforcement Officer Mike Aiken, Building Deputy Administrator Brett Lowry, Chamber/E.D.C. Director Barry Sellers, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, E9-1-1 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Gulf County E.M.S. Director Houston Whitfield, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Gulf County Planner David Richardson, Preble-Rish/County Engineer Clay Smallwood III, Public Works Director Joe Danford, Sheriff Joe Nugent, and T.D.C. Director Jennifer Jenkins.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m., E.T.

Assistant Administrator Hammond opened the meeting in prayer, and Chairman Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner McDaniel and unanimous vote the Board approved the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Minutes – June 12, 2012 – Regular Meeting
 - June 25, 2012 – Emergency Meeting
 - June 26, 2012 – Regular Meeting

2. Agreement – Agency for Healthcare Administration – Primary Care
((\$288,759.00)

- Agreement – Agency for Healthcare Administration – Low Income Pool
((\$417,604.00)

3. Insurance Committee Recommendations

4. Inventory – County Judge Timothy J. McFarland (Junk * Optimus TV w/VHS Player, Panasonic TV w/VHS Player, HP1740 Monitor, HPL2208w Monitor, Fellows PS-77C Shredder, Fellows DM-6 Shredder)

5. Invoices – Bryan-Co Services, Inc. – Liberty Manor Apartments (Application No. 1 * \$33,583.68 * to be paid from Account #113554-34000)
- Bryan-Co Services, Inc. – Moss Creek Apartments (Application No. 1 * \$2,615.18 * to be paid from Account #113554-34000)
 - Bryan-Co Services, Inc. – Pine Ridge Apartments (Application No. 1 * \$33,583.68 * to be paid from Account #113554-34000)
 - Coastal Parasail – Beach Raking (Invoice #12004 * \$500.00 * to be paid from Account #27452-46100)
 - Kone, Inc. – Courthouse Elevator (Invoice #150690160 * \$12,056.00 * to be paid from Account #26219-62100)
 - North Florida Construction, Inc. – Stumphole Revetment Phase IV - DRI (Invoice #SA#1 * \$96,345.97 * to be paid from Account #113538-34000)
 - North Florida Construction, Inc. – Stumphole Revetment Phase V – DREF (Invoice #SA#1 * \$68,402.25 * to be paid from Account #113538-34000)
 - Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners – 2012 CO-OP Collection (\$5,267.80 * to be paid from Account #41934-52000)
 - Opportunity Florida – 2012-2013 Membership Dues (\$1,586.30)
 - Roberson & Associates, P.A. – Professional Services (Invoice #PSJ9981 * \$10,400.00 * to be paid from Account #346513-32000)
 - Sniffen & Spellman, P.A. – Professional Litigation Services (Invoice #8962 \$133.00 * to be paid from Account #21111-31300)
 - St. Joseph Bay Humane Society – Animal Control (July, 2012 * \$4,402.00 * to be paid from Account #43262-82000)
 - Tax Collector – Advertising Cost for Unsold County Certificates (\$3,155.05 * to be paid from Account #21111-49200)

- The Ferguson Group, LLC – Federal Lobbying Services (Invoice #0812170 * \$6,500.00 * to be paid from Account #21111-31200)

6. Request for Extension – C.D.B.G.-DRI Stumphole Revetment Grant
7. Road Closure (Temporary) – U.S. Highway 98 in the vicinity of Veterans' Memorial Park for the Beach Blast Sprint and Olympic Distance Triathlon and Duathlon (September 8, 2012)
8. S.H.I.P. – Down Payment Assistance (Sheila Ann Williams * \$17,500.00)

(End)

AUDIO/VISUAL RECORDING

County Attorney Novak noted for the record that we are currently experiencing technical difficulties with the visual recording, but noted there is an audio recording of the meeting. He stated Mr. Murphy will advise us when the video is working.

PUBLIC HEARING – P.D.R.B. RECOMMENDATIONS (JULY 16, 2012)

The Board then considered the following recommendations from the July 16, 2012 meeting of the Planning & Development Review Board:

VARIANCE APPLICATION – MICHAEL DODSON

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider an encroachment of a mobile home into road setback 10.2" (Parcel ID #04546-004R * S26, T7S, R11W), County Attorney Novak read the public hearing notice to approve an encroachment of a mobile home into road setback 10.2". Commissioner McDaniel motioned to approve the variance application. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion. Chairman Williams called for public comment and there was none. The motion then passed unanimously.

NON-RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT – THAD WILLIAMS

Pursuant to advertisement to hold a public hearing to consider the non-residential development of Castaway Campground RV Park, a 40 unit park (Parcel ID #03552-000R * S30, T6S, R11W), County Attorney Novak read the public hearing notice to approve development of Castaway Campground RV Park. Mr. Novak noted the P.D.R.B. provided preliminary approval subject to further conditions and agency review. Upon inquiry by Chairman Williams, County Attorney Novak reported there was P.D.R.B. and public discussion concerning ingress and egress, and traffic count. Chairman Williams called for public comment. Being no public comment, Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve the non-residential development. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

AUDIO/VISUAL RECORDING

Clerk Norris reported for the record the visual recording is now working. <Sheriff Nugent entered the meeting at 9:11 a.m., E.T.>

INVOICE – AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION (A.H.C.A.)

Grant Writer Kopinsky presented for Board consideration and approval an invoice from the Agency for Healthcare Administration for the Health Department HQAC 4th Quarter payment, in the amount of \$4,076.00. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve the invoice for payment. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

INVOICE – AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION (A.H.C.A.)

Grant Writer Kopinsky presented for Board consideration and approval an invoice from Agency for Healthcare Administration for the 4th quarter Medicaid, in the amount of \$115,521.00. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve the invoice for payment. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

S.H.I.P.

Grant Writer Kopinsky reported that a S.H.I.P. recipient had an insurance claim on their property and the insurance company made the checks payable to the recipient and the County. She requested permission for the Chairman to endorse the checks so they can be provided to the property owner. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request, contingent upon County Attorney review. Commissioner McDaniel seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

BID #1112-24 – AWNING/CANOPY CONSTRUCTION

Gulf County E.M.S. Director Whitfield recommended awarding Bid #1112-24 for the E.M.S. awning/canopy (covering three (3) ambulances, and across the back of the building) to Fisher Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$21,000.00. Mr. Whitfield noted they have the money on hand (in the budget) for it. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

E.M.S. – BAY MEDICAL CENTER

Gulf County E.M.S. Director Whitfield discussed a proposed draft agreement with Bay Medical Center concerning the E.M.S. services at Mexico Beach, stating they have agreed to fund \$36,000.00 to Gulf County for ambulance services to Mexico Beach, and recommended approval; with the addition of the county maintaining all billing and collections, and being contingent upon County Attorney review. He reported after December 1st, Bay Medical Center will probably not be the ambulance service provider for Mexico Beach, stating he had already spoken to Bay County on the possibility of continuing the agreement after this date. Chairman Williams requested that Chief Administrator Butler and County Attorney Novak speak with the Ed Smith or Bob Majka concerning this issue. County Attorney Novak reported that he will amend the language and have Bob Majka acknowledging that possible transfer. Commissioner McLemore

motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner McDaniel seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

BEACHES FIRE DEPARTMENT – POLITICAL FORUM

Chief Richardson of the Beaches Fire Department reported the Beaches Fire Department will host a “meet and greet” for candidates of District 3 on Saturday, July 28th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., E.T. and invited everyone to attend.

CONTRACT – GEOCOMM – TRI-COUNTY MAP DISPLAY SYSTEM

E9-1-1 Coordinator Guthrie requested permission for Chairman Williams to sign and execute the contract with GeoComm for the Tri-County mapping display system; contingent upon County Attorney review. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

SIGN ORDINANCE

County Attorney Novak reported that Code Enforcement Officer Michael Aiken has compiled a comprehensive fact sheet for quick and common questions for the public concerning the sign ordinance, stating that he has placed the ordinance, fact sheet, and application on the county website for the public.

WILLIS LANDING LEASE

County Attorney Novak updated the Board on the Willis Landing Boat Ramp, stating he submitted correspondence to the St. Joe Company concerning this issue, and the representative from St. Joe Company responded there was not enough time to address it before the deadline of the grant, but felt they would be able to work out an addendum.

ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE

County Attorney Novak reported the animal control ordinance sub-committee will meet on Monday, July 30th at 11:00 a.m., E.T. in the Board conference room.

INSURANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Chief Administrator Butler noted the Board approved the Insurance Committee’s recommendation as outlined in Item #3 (page 38) of the Consent Agenda. He highlighted the recommendation as follows: (1) move all employees to an all H.S.A. benefit structure effective October 1, 2013, (2) as part of that transition, eliminate the current \$500.00 deductible plan (offering only \$1,500, \$2,500, or \$5,000 deductible plans). He noted that County Administration further recommends the Board offer a lower cost H.S.A. plan as a new 4th option. (3) Move forward with a full blown wellness program, starting with biometric screenings for all employees followed up by a Health Risk Assessment. Chief Administrator Butler noted for the record, as approved by the Board in previous meetings, the renewal of the dental coverage with FCL (Florida Combined Life), and the life insurance with ING, and the approval by the Board to move the voluntary benefits to American Fidelity and no longer support the other voluntary companies through payroll deductions; employees may keep their existing policies and pay for them directly, and as part of the agreement, American Fidelity will offer their

electronic enrollment system for all benefits with no charge. Commissioner McDaniel motioned to accept the recommendation. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed 4 to 1, with Chairman Williams voting no.

BEACH RENOURISHMENT

Chief Administrator Butler stated he contacted the Coastal Engineers, MRD Associates, and requested they consider the use of an upland sand source for the next beach renourishment/repair project, as directed by the Board at their last meeting. He reported that Michael Dombrowski of MRD Associates is going to consider the potential upland sand sources. David Taunton appeared before the Board and discussed the feasibility and benefit of using an upland sand source for the Cape San Blas Beach Renourishment project, in lieu of pumped sand from the Gulf floor, and recommended the Boards consideration. <Entire presentation read in the record is on file in the Clerks Office> Commissioner McLemore asked whether they can get close to the price compared from the sand mine to the dredging. Mr. Taunton stated if it gets down to comparing dollar for dollar, the dredging would probably be cheaper, but the sand would go back to where it came from, and the money would go back to West Virginia, and this Board would not be doing their job in doing what is in the best interest of Gulf County.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

T.D.C. Director Jenkins discussed that she and Grant Writer Kopinsky worked to define the scope of work and cost with Kerigan Marketing Associates and requested approval for the T.D.C. to continue to work with Kerigan Marketing on the defined issues through September 30, 2012. She stated if the Board approved this request, she would craft a letter outlining the scope of work, the timing, expectations, and cost, and deliver it to Kerigan Marketing Associates. T.D.C. Director Jenkins reported the T.D.C. Budget Committee met yesterday and discussed this issue at length; approving for her to bring this matter to the Board's attention. Upon inquiry by Chairman Williams concerning the letter to Kerigan Marketing Associates, T.D.C. Director Jenkins stated the letter will clearly state there is a termination of all services effective September 30, 2012. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

GULF COAST WORKFORCE BOARD – BUDGET/WAIVERS

Gary Ross of Gulf Coast Workforce Board appeared before the Board and reported that the Workforce System in Florida is the top system in the United States that has been recognized by groups as different as the Department of Labor and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Due to new legislation, Mr. Ross reported that the Workforce Board Budget has to now be approved by the Board of County Commissioners. Kim Bodine of Gulf Coast Workforce Board appeared before the Board and noted that the Workforce Board was placed on the Agenda and requested approval of the their budget. Chairman Williams commended the Workforce Board. Commissioner McLemore asked this Board and the Workforce Board to work tirelessly on the upland sand deal in using local vendors on the Beach Renourishment project. Ms. Ross stated he would discuss the matter with Mr. Taunton following the meeting. Commissioner Smiley motioned to approve the Gulf Coast Workforce Board budget, as requested. Commissioner

McDaniel seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Ms. Bodine requested approval of the Individual Training Accounts waiver (required by law that 50% of WIA adult and dislocated worker funds be spent on training). Commissioner Smiley motioned to approve this request. Commissioner McDaniel seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

STRIPPING – IOLA ROAD & OLD BAY CITY ROAD

Commissioner McLemore requested that Chief Administrator Butler check the status on the stripping for Iola Road and Old Bay City Road, stating we need to move forward on this project.

WEWAHITCHKA GIRLS SOFTBALL

Commissioner McLemore recognized the Wewahitchka Girls Softball 0 and under team for winning the State championship, stating they are now on their way to the World Series in South Carolina. He also reported the Girls Softball 12 and under team won 2nd place in the State championship.

GULF COUNTY 4-H

Sheriff Nugent reported that the Gulf County 4-H went to the State Horse Show two weeks ago and out of the five (5) girls and one (1) boy that attended, they placed second in the State, stating that they have two (2) girls leaving next Friday to go to Regional's in Perry, Georgia.

SPECIAL MEETING – RE-DISTRICTING/COUNTY WIDE VOTING

County Attorney Novak reminded the Board of the Special Meeting on Monday, July 30th at 9:00 a.m., E.T. for Michael Spellman of Sniffen & Spellman Law Firm to give an update on re-districting and county wide voting.

WOUNDED SOLDIER - CARTER HESS

Chairman Williams requested permission to send a letter to Wounded Soldier Carter Hess (son of State Attorney Glenn Hess) on behalf on the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

RESTORE ACT

Chairman Williams discussed the Restore Act meeting in Ft. Walton, stating he would like to appoint Johanna White of The Port Authority, Chamber/E.D.C. Director Barry Sellers, County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Port St. Joe City Commissioner Bill Kennedy, Wewahitchka Mayor Philip Gaskin, Loretta Costin of the Academic and workforce scenario, Chief Administrator Butler, Kim Bodine of Gulf Coast Workforce Board, and T.D.C. Director Jennifer Jenkins to serve on the Restore Act Board. Chairman Williams directed Chief Administrator Butler to set a meeting of this Board within the next two (2) weeks. Chairman Williams called for public comment.

MEDICAID

Chairman Williams discussed the Medicaid issue and reported that A.C.H.A. has worked through this; noting the potential cost to Gulf County has reduced from the original amount.

BEACH RENOURISHMENT

Pat Hardman, Coastal Community Association of Cape San Blas, appeared before the Board and encouraged the Board to look at David Taunton's proposal on the upland sand for beach renourishment, and keeping jobs within Gulf County.

CITIZENS IMPROVING GULF COUNTY

Christy McElroy appeared before the Board and presented a statement with supporting documents to the County. She stated it appears that individuals associated with the P.A.C. (Political Action Committee), past and present, have questions on the process set forth for the Homeless Shelter and Nuisance Ordinance which were voted on at the last Commission meeting, and said she would like to make sure we have a clear record of conduct because, "to remain silent is to consent". She stated that they followed a very exact process and there was complete collaboration with the County, City, and citizens for these ordinances. Ms. McElroy stated since some questioned the process, she asked the following questions of the Commissioners. (1) Did I at anytime offer any kind of deal or try to influence any of you in order to get a vote for the Homeless or Nuisance ordinances? Each Commissioner answered, no. (2) Have I ever had as much as or more than a cup of coffee with you alone? Each Commissioner answered, no. (3) Has there ever been behavior with me that is inappropriate that would cause concern for your mother or for others? Each Commissioner answered, no. Ms. McElroy noted the Board has her application for appointment to the Gulf County Advisory Board request and her resume in the packet. She discussed there are a list of items in which she cares about in this County: (1) The Port, (2) our drinking water, (3) County wide recycling program, (4) instructional aquatic activities for our teens and young adults, (5) diverse fruit and vegetable gardens to assist with healthy eco system and to provide food and economic opportunity for interested citizens, (6) the bee industry, (7) other cottage type industries, and (8) the E.D.C. Commissioner Smiley motioned to allow additional time for Ms. McElroy to speak. Commissioner McDaniel seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Ms. McElroy discussed the advertisement in The Star by the P.A.C. group, stating that she has joined the E.D.C. and is looking forward to it being a thriving success, stating she was informed that Ed Nelson the former E.D.C. Executive Director lived in Atlanta, Georgia and never moved to Port St. Joe. She discussed the decision to dissolve the E.D.C. came with quite a bit of discussion led by Chamber of Commerce Board President Bobby Pickels on the concept of consolidation and coordination between the Chamber of Commerce and E.D.C. She continued her discussion of previous Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Smiley motioned to allow additional time for Ms. McElroy to speak. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Ms. McElroy continued. Ms. McElroy went on to say that the P.A.C. website states, if you wish to contribute time or money to their cause please contact them for information, and donations can be kept confidential, noting by law they cannot. She stated she hopes the candidates that are not voted in office will have their

bucket list and work from beginning to end to see change happen in a positive way, stating this will only help our County. Commissioner Smiley motioned to allow Ms. McElroy additional time to speak. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Ms. McElroy reported that she presented a copy of all this documentation to the Board and Clerk. Commissioner Yeager stated that there have been personal attacks during this campaign, negativity like he has never seen; threats to him, threats to his family, and threats to others. Commissioner McDaniel reported that he has heard only positive news on the consolidation of the E.D.C. and the Chamber of Commerce. He noted it was to save money and have a more in-depth knowledge of what is going on. Speaking for himself, Commissioner McDaniel stated for the record that he felt this was the right thing to do and he stands behind that decision. Chairman Williams stated that if the P.A.C. was so oriented on better government, they should attend some of these budget meetings that we have been holding. He stated this group has bad intent, bad motives, and they want to destroy people; noting we should be pulling together instead of pulling apart. Chairman Williams asked the community to rise above it, and hold your community leaders accountable. Commissioner McLemore stated if they (P.A.C.) has a problem with him they should contact him, but leave his family alone. <Entire presentation packet is on file in the Clerk's Office>

2012 FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

As President of the Florida Association of Counties, Chairman Williams presented the \$1,500.00 Florida Association of Counties Presidential Scholarship to Toren Guthrie, the son of Gulf County E9-1-1 Coordinator Ben Guthrie. Chairman Williams noted the scholarship was named in memory of Bryce Nelson, son of Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson. On behalf of his family and Toren, E9-1-1- Coordinator Ben Guthrie thanked everyone for the opportunity that has been afforded them through this scholarship, noting Toren will start Tallahassee Community College (TCC) in a few weeks.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, the meeting did then adjourn at 10:16 a.m., E.T.

**WILLIAM C. WILLIAMS, III
CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:
REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**