

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

JUNE 22, 2010

REGULAR MEETING

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

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy McFarland, Clerk Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Assistant Administrator Michael Hammond, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, E9-1-1 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, G.I.S Director Scott Warner, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Planner David Richardson, Public Works Director Joe Danford, Sheriff's Office Major Bobby Plair, and T.D.C. Director Tim Kerigan.

Sheriff's Office Major Plair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., E.T.

Assistant Administrator Hammond opened the meeting with prayer, and Chairman McLemore led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon recommendation by Chairman McLemore to pull Item #2 (pages 24-27) from the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0) as follows:

1. Minutes – May 24, 2010 – Special Meeting
 - May 25, 2010 – Regular Meeting
 - June 1, 2010 – Emergency Meeting
 - June 3, 2010 – Emergency Meeting
2. ****DELETE**** Appointment – Capital Area Community Action Agency's Tri-Partite Board of Directors (Amy Rodgers)
3. Bid Award #0910-16A – D.R.I. Administration Services (Jordan & Associates
* \$57,000.00)

Bid Award #0910-16B – D.R.I. Activity Delivery Services (Jordan & Associates)

4. Budget Resolution #2010-12 (General Fund & Howard Creek Volunteer Fire Department Fund for unanticipated revenue for fiscal year 2009-2010) as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-12

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, has unanticipated revenue in the General Fund and Howard Creek Fire Department Fund for fiscal year 2009-2010 and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to help pay certain expenditures incurred in fiscal year 2009-2010,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The 2009-2010 fiscal year budget be amended as follows:

General Fund

	Original Budget	Increase	Decrease	Amended Budget
Gulf EMS:				
51626-12000 Salaries	407,080.00	39,000.00	-	446,080.00
Charges & Fees:				
00142-60000 Ambulance Fees	325,000.00	39,000.00	-	364,000.00

Howard Creek Volunteer Fire Department Fund

	Original Budget	Increase	Decrease	Amended Budget
Expenditures:				
32722-52000 Operating Exp	11,839.70	1,800.00	-	13,639.79
Revenue:				
10960-00000 Misc Rev-Donations	3,200.00	1,800.00	-	5,000.00

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners this the 22nd day of June, 2010.

(End)

5. Fee Waiver – Tipping Fees (Christian Community Development Fund)
6. Insurance Coverage (Dental Insurance – Tonya Knox/Mike Knox)
7. Invoices – Gulf Coast Children’s Advocacy Center (5/2010 * \$350.00 * to be paid from Account #21111-31300)
 - Tax Collector – Advertising Cost for 2009 Unsold County Certificates (\$5,238.13 * to be paid from Account #21111-49200)
8. Purchase Request – Gulf County Sheriff’s Department (Panel Display Message Board * \$12,810.22 * to be paid from Account #30621-64001)
9. Road Maintenance – Methodist Hill Road

(End)

SUPPLEMENTAL CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Peters motioned to approve the supplemental consent agenda. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously 3 to 1, with Commissioner Yeager abstaining due to having a business relationship with Preble-Rish, Inc. as follows:

1. Bid Ranking #0910-16C – D.R.I. Engineering Services (Preble-Rish, Inc.)

(End)

P.D.R.B. RECOMMENDATIONS (JUNE 21, 2010)

County Attorney McFarland reported that the P.D.R.B. did not have a quorum for their meeting so they are unable to bring those recommendations before the Board.

TAUNTON TRUSS – VOLUNTARY SURRENDER

County Attorney McFarland reported that he received the voluntary surrender of the premises on behalf of Taunton Truss, concerning the Industrial Park, stating that they have agreed to be out by July 31, 2010, and recommended approval. Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. <Commissioner Williams entered the meeting at 6:03 p.m., E.T.> <Agreement on file with Clerk.>

U.S.FISH & WILDLIFE – TURTLE SEASON – BEACH CLOSURE

Chief Administrator Butler reported that he met with U.S. Fish & Wildlife concerning turtle season along the coastline, and reported that you cannot drive along the coastline at night,

stating that there is 24 hour operations for the oil spill issues. He reported that the Sheriff's Department has been closing the beaches for the past six months at night, stating that it cannot be closed now due to ongoing work 24 hours per day on the beaches. Chief Administrator Butler recommended that the gates not be closed and only allow the oil spill workers on the beach after dark. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Yeager discussed that some of the other Counties are cleaning their beaches at night as the tar balls come on the beaches. Chairman McLemore reported that this Board will not stop any contractor with their employees from working on the beaches. Sheriff's Office Major Plair reported that all the employees for British Petroleum (B.P.) on the oil spill will be in vest and identification tags. After further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

GAC CONTRACTORS – D.O.T. FUNDING – CAPE BIKE PATH PHASE 1

Grant Writer Kopinsky requested approval of invoice #6873 from GAC Contractors, for the D.O.T. project funding for renovations to the Cape San Blas Bike Path, Phase 1, in the amount of \$45,000.00. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ANDERSON COLUMBIA – L.A.P. PROJECT – C.R. 30-A

Grant Writer Kopinsky requested payment of application #1 (final) from Anderson Columbia, contingent on D.O.T. approval of the C.R. 30-A L.A.P. Project, in the amount of \$249,979.83. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

CAPITAL AREA COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Peters motioned to appoint Erika White to the Capital Area Community Action Agency to represent Gulf County, effective July 1, 2010. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

COUNTY ADVERTISING – THE STAR

Commissioner Peters motioned for the County to advertise in The Star to keep things local. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion for discussion. Chief Administrator Butler discussed that the Staff has discretion based on the need, stating that there are strict guidelines with the P.D.R.B. After further discussion by members of the Board, Commissioner Peters amended his motion to include the use of the News Herald when an emergency need arises, giving discretion to staff. Commissioner Yeager stated that his second stands, and the motion passed 4 to 1, with Chairman McLemore voting no.

GULF COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – ADMINISTRATOR VACANCY

Commissioner Traylor motioned to send a letter to the State Department of Health concerning the vacancy of the Gulf County Health Department Administrator for the past four months. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

P.D.R.B. APPOINTMENT - MCKNIGHT

Commissioner Traylor motioned to appoint Jim McKnight to fill the vacancy on the P.D.R.B. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

SACRED HEART HOSPITAL – MCKNIGHT

Commissioner Peters discussed that Jim McKnight was very instrumental in helping Gulf County with the Sacred Heart Hospital.

HORSES ON BEACH

Commissioner Yeager requested permission to work with County Attorney McFarland on amending the ordinance concerning horses on the beaches, stating that there continues to be a problem with horses and waste disposal on the beaches. The Board had no objection.

LANDFILL EMPLOYEE – TONY LARRY

Commissioner Peters discussed the position held by Tony Larry at the landfill, stating that he is an exceptional employee, and Public Works Director Danford would like to move him to Landfill Operator II. Chairman McLemore recommended that Chief Administrator Butler, Assistant Administrator Hammond, and Public Works Director Danford handle this issue. The Board had no objection.

DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL UPDATE

Emergency Management Director Nelson gave an update on the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, stating that oil has reached the West end of Panama City Beach, and there is a tropical system below Cuba which they are watching closely. He discussed that they need additional help at the E.O.C., stating that they are unable to keep up with everything. He reported that there is a lot of information flowing, but they are unable to get it everywhere it needs to be. Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that he is looking at the E.O.C. staffing patterns, stating that there needs to be a (1) Public Information Officer which is responsible for developing and releasing information about the incident to the news media, to incident personnel, and to other appropriate agencies and organizations, (2) Planning Chief which is responsible for the collection, evaluation, dissemination and use of information about the development of the incident and the status of resources, (3) Planner which will compile the information into a Situation Report and will be the basis for future Incident Action Plans, (4) Oversight & Monitoring which the County will be required to assist in the certification process to ensure the work and/or service was completed in accordance with the contract specifications, and (5) Public Assistance and Documentation which will be responsible for tracking and submitting claims to B.P. for reimbursement. Emergency Management Director Nelson recommended to hire D.S.I. (which is already under contract by the County) to handle this process. Commissioner Williams discussed that he supports this recommendation because it is critical for this County, and that we need a direct contract with D.E.P. Emergency Management Director Nelson requested to bring Jean Revell in to answer the phones. After further discussion by members of the Board, Commissioner Williams motioned for Chief Administrator Butler to move forward once a contract is approved by D.E.P. or B.P., assuring that Gulf County will not be financially responsible. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL – ST. JOSEPH BAY

Upon inquiry by Emergency Management Director Nelson pertaining to protecting St. Joseph Bay to the best of their ability, Chairman McLemore discussed that this boom will not protect St. Joseph Bay. Commissioner Yeager reported that this will be addressed with Secretary Sole in the meeting on Wednesday, stating that the boom has been pulled from the mainland to the tip of the Point. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Peters concerning everyone attending the meeting with Secretary Sole, Commissioner Williams responded that they have specifically asked for Chief Administrator Butler and Emergency Management Director Nelson to attend the meeting. Commissioner Yeager reported that it is critical that they attend the meeting. Commissioner Peters stated that he wants staff here working as much as possible and he conferred.

Commissioner Williams reported that he was appointed by the Governor to serve on Economic Recovery Task Force with Communications, stating that he will address the issue of protecting St. Joseph Bay with the Governor and Secretary Sole.

Commissioner Williams announced that the Chamber of Commerce will be holding a community workshop on the British Petroleum (B.P.) oil spill on Thursday, June 24, 2010.

Commissioner Williams discussed that this County needs assistance (consultation). County Attorney McFarland reported that we need someone collecting damage information and payments, and recommended to hire a firm and limit the scope of work at this time. Commissioner Yeager motioned to hire the Beasley Law Firm for consultation services only (no litigation) under the direction of County Attorney McFarland. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion for discussion. Upon inquiry by Clerk Norris, County Attorney McFarland reported that there will have to be a contingency fee agreement, stating that there would be no funds transferred now, and the County would not owe any money unless there is a recovery at the end, with a percentage recovery of whatever the County receives. Mike Wallis appeared before the Board and discussed that the County needs to be documenting what their losing now. After further discussion by members of the Board, the motion then passed unanimously (2-0), with Chairman McLemore, Commissioner Traylor and Commissioner Peters abstaining due to a direct or indirect business relationship with B.P.

GULF COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL – SENTINEL CHICKEN PROGRAM

Rich Brenner, of St. Joe Beach appeared before the Board and discussed that he appeared before the Board last year during the Budget, and reported that you should not eliminate essential items which affect the health and welfare of this County. He reported that there was a letter sent to the Commissioners from Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran that he had suspended the sentinel chicken program due to budget restraints. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Williams, Public Works Director Danford reported that the problem is that there is not enough employees to continue running this program. Assistant Administrator Hammond reported that this was a recommendation from the Budget Review Committee, not from the Board, due to a staffing issue. Mr. Brenner discussed that you cannot keep cutting services, stating that people have to pay for services to keep them.

COASTAL COMMUNITY HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Pat Hardman appeared before the Board and invited all Commissioners to the Coastal Community Homeowners Association Annual Meeting at the Country Club, Saturday, June 26, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., E.T.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner Yeager, the meeting did then adjourn at 7:04 p.m., E.T.

**CARMEN L. MCLEMORE
CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:
REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**