

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

JUNE 23, 2008

REGULAR MEETING

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

Others present were: County Attorney Tim McFarland, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Deputy Clerk Kayla Duke, Human Resource Director Denise Manuel, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Planner David Richardson, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Solid Waste Director Joe Danford, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Maintenance Supervisor Steve Mork, Road Department Supervisor Bobby Knee, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Public Works Director Gerald Shearer, Veteran's Service Officer James Kennedy, and Sheriff Joe Nugent.

Sheriff Joe Nugent called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. E.T.

Commissioner Barnes opened the meeting with prayer and Commissioner Peters led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve the following Consent Agenda items. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

1. Minutes - May 27, 2008 - Regular Meeting
Minutes - June 10, 2008 - Regular Meeting
2. Advertise for Bids - Maintenance Department (Courthouse Renovations)
3. Agreement - Gulf County and Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development and Enterprise Florida, Inc. (Revenue Distribution Approach for RACEC Catalyst Project for Economic Development - Northwest Florida RACEC)
4. BCC Correspondence - Chairman to DEP (Request to extend project completion date for Gulf Beaches Sewer Grant - Phase 1)
5. Inventory - Wetappo Creek Volunteer Fire Department (Approval of sale and transfer of pump and motor, in the amount of \$1,747.00)
6. Invoices - Bailey Bishop & Lane, Inc. - Overstreet Watermain Extension

(Invoice #13208 in the amount of * to be paid from Account #27550-31000

- East Side Entrees - Ratification (\$7,286.40)
- G.A.C. Contractors - Cape San Blas Shared Use Bike Path, Phase II (Invoice #738 in the amount of \$21,948.00 * to be paid from Account #40341-34000)
- Gulf Coast Children's Advocacy Center (05/05/08 * \$175.00 * to be paid from Account #21111-31300)
- Preble-Rish, Inc. - Five Points Landfill (Invoice #65711 in the amount of \$11,777.50 * to be paid from Account #46234-310)
- Preble-Rish, Inc. - Cape San Blas Bike Path Phase III/Bid# 0607-22 (Invoice #65721 in the amount of \$19,120.00 * to be paid from Account #40341-31000)
- Preble-Rish, Inc. - Iola Road Storm Water Improvements (Invoice #65722 in the amount of \$24,375.00 * to be paid from Account #33537-63000)
- Preble-Rish, Inc. - Cape San Blas Bike Path Phase II/Bid# 0607-22 (Invoice #65723 in the amount of \$3,117.00 * to be paid from Account #40341-31000)
- Preble-Rish, Inc. - Five Points Permit Renewal and Modification (Invoice #76794 in the amount of \$1,397.50 * to be paid from Account #46234-310)
- Preble-Rish, Inc. - Wetappo Landfill Closure (Invoice #76795 in the amount of \$824.05 * to be paid from Account #46234-310)

- Waterworks - Americus Avenue Ditch Project/Bid #0708-01 (Invoice #7319185 in the amount of \$2,544.60 * to be paid from Account #41441-63000)
- Waterworks - Americus Avenue Ditch Project/Bid #0708-01 (Invoice #77355257 in the amount of \$7,966.80 * to be paid from Account #41441-63000)
- Waterworks - Americus Avenue Ditch Project/Bid #0708-01 (Invoice #7364037 in the amount of \$15,933.60 * to be paid from Account #41440-63000)
- Waterworks - Americus Avenue Ditch Project/Bid #0708-01 (Invoice

#7370941 in the amount of \$6,048.40 * to be paid from Account #41441-63000)

7. Permit Modification - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the St. Joseph Peninsula Erosion Control Project Bid #0607-23

(End of Consent Agenda)

EDWARD BYRNES MEMORIAL GRANT

Sheriff Joe Nugent informed the Board that the Edward Byrnes Memorial Grant paperwork came through, but he had not received it. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve the signing of the acceptance letter for the grant, and the letter to the City of Port St. Joe for its participation. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Sheriff Nugent stated that the grant money went from \$67,000.00 to \$21,000.00. Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier stated that she received that paperwork just prior to the meeting.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS/ DEBRIS REMOVAL (STANDBY CONTRACT)

Solid Waste Director Joe Danford informed the Board that the Debris Removal RFP had been placed with the Clerk's Office for advertisement.

FIVE POINTS LANDFILL/WORK SCHEDULE

Danford recommended that the Board change the working hours for Five Points Landfill to 7:30 to 5:00. Commissioner Peters motioned to do so. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

AUDIO/VIDEO CONFERENCING SYSTEM

Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson informed the Board that the new Audio/Video Conferencing System had been installed, and they will be having training classes for it. Nelson discussed that the system will have video conferencing capabilities that could save travel costs in the future.

WATER SYSTEM AGREEMENT

County Attorney Tim McFarland requested the Board's approval of the Water System Agreement, stating that the City had paid for the system in full, and he needs the Board's signature. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve the Agreement. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SAFETY POLICY/DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Human Resource Director Denise Manuel requested the Board's approval of the Safety Policy for the Debris Management Plan. Commissioner Barnes motioned to approve the policy. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Complete copy on file in Clerk's Office)**

COMMUNICATION SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

Administrator Don Butler informed the Board that the Communication Services Committee met, and the Committee recommends the Board recognize the Emergency Management Department as the custodian of any existing radio tower, and any new radio tower the Board puts in place in the future, therefore controlling the addition of any antennas or other equipment to the towers. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve the recommendation of the Communication Services Committee. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

INVOICE/ COURTHOUSE AIR CONDITIONING

Administrator Butler presented an invoice from Garry Gaddis Construction for approval for the emergency repairs done on the Courthouse A/C., in the amount of \$12,470.00, to be paid from grant funds. Commissioner Peters motioned to pay the invoice. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

COURTHOUSE AIR CONDITIONING/CHILLERS/ EMERGENCYBIDS

Administrator Butler presented the emergency bids for the Courthouse chiller, and recommended that the Board award the project to the low bidder, Peaden, in the amount of \$53,092.00. Commissioner McLemore motioned to do so. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

HD SUPPLY WATERWORKS INVOICE/AMERICUS AVENUE DITCH PROJECT/BID#0708-01

Administrator Butler presented an invoice for approval from HD Supply, in the amount of \$2,398.00 to be paid from Secondary Road and Bridge funds. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve payment of the invoice. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2008-06/OIL DRILLING

Chairman Traylor discussed a Resolution for the Board's consideration in support of oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. Chairman Traylor stated that he has sent emails to two Congressmen who do not support oil drilling, requesting an explanation, but has received no reply. Chairman Traylor requested that the Board vote to adopt the Resolution supporting oil drilling. Commissioner Barnes motioned to adopt the following Resolution. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA RESOLUTION 2008-06

WHEREAS, the cost of oil in 2003 in the United States was \$31.08 per barrel and has increased to \$135.00 in 2008 and,

WHEREAS, the price of gasoline has recently surpassed \$4.00 per gallon and the price of diesel fuel is approaching \$5.00 per gallon, and,

WHEREAS, the increased cost of fuel and oil costs directly and indirectly negatively impact every individual, business, and government agency in Gulf County, Florida and in

the United States, and,

WHEREAS, the increased cost of fuel is having serious impact on families struggling to balance budgets and has increased product costs making Florida produced products more expensive, and,

WHEREAS, higher fuel prices have impacted governmental expenditures at a time of tight budgets, revenue reductions and citizen demands for property tax reductions, and,

WHEREAS, individuals, business, and local governments cannot absorb the steep increases of fuel without increasing costs, cutting vital services and/or negatively impacting the lives of the general public, and,

WHEREAS, it is not apparent that Congress has an effective plan to cause lower fuel prices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS communicate grave concern to the members of the United States Congress and insist that steps be taken to reduce the cost of fuel for individuals, businesses, governments and all consumers in Florida, and in the United States.

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS this 23rd day of June, 2008.

(END)

Chairman Traylor stated that he has prepared letters to be sent to surrounding Counties, and requested that the Board vote to approve the distribution of those letters. Commissioner McLemore motioned to do so. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

LANDFILL

Commissioner Peters expressed concern about a decision the Board made in the June 16, 2008 meeting, in which an MSBU for the Landfill was voted down. Commissioner Peters stated that his concern is that the Board has a plan to carry out the decision without causing double taxation for the public, and requested that the Board set up a workshop to discuss this. Chairman Traylor stated that he intends to discuss budget issues later in the meeting.

OAK GROVE CONDEMNED RESIDENCE

Commissioner Barnes informed the Board of a house in the Oak Grove area that needs to be torn down. Commissioner Barnes stated that the owners are in bad health, and the property is being used for questionable activities, making it a public safety issue, as well as a health hazard. Chairman Traylor inquired who the property belonged to. Commissioner Barnes stated it belonged to William and Sue Wilson. Chairman Traylor called for Jim Gainee to approach the Board. Mr. Gainee stated that the house is in very bad condition, and has already been condemned, informing the board that it is adjacent to the home that the Wilsons are currently living in. Mr. Gainee explained that, due to their

health, the Wilsons can not take care of it. Chairman Traylor discussed that the County usually tears down houses, if there is a problem with drug enforcement, or some other infringement of the law. Attorney McFarland stated that this could be done through the Nuisance Ordinance Process, or the Board could vote to tear it down, through an agreement with the owners to allow the County to access the property. Commissioner Barnes motioned to request consent from the Wilsons for the County to demolish the condemned house. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MOSQUITO CONTROL/DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commissioner Barnes motioned for the Board's permission have the Department of Agriculture inspect the Mosquito Control Program, and report back to the Board. Commissioner McLemore seconded for discussion, stating that the Department of Agriculture has already performed an inspection this year, and reported that Mosquito Control had no violations. Commissioner Barnes stated that he just wants to confirm if there are any problems that need to be corrected. Solid Waste Director Joe Danford stated that when the DOA did an inspection, based upon regulation, and what Commissioner Barnes is speaking of, is a management analysis. Commissioner McLemore withdrew his second. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and it passed 4-1, with Commissioner McLemore objecting.

CAPE ISLE PRESERVE/PROPOSED REPLAT

David Connert approached the Board on behalf of Cape San Blas Development to request that the Board approve the Proposed Replat to Cape Isle Preserve, Phases I, II, and III, that reduces the size of the Gulf Front Lots, in order to make them buildable under the CCCL requirements. Planner Richardson stated that the PDRB met and considered this issue, and recommends Board approval. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve the replat of Phase I, II, and III of the Cape Isle Preserve. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion then passed unanimously. As recommended, Commissioner Williams motioned for the Board to approve the Replat of Phase I, as lot owners. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

LANDFILL/MSBU

Chairman Traylor stated that he would like to support the MSBU, but would like to see the process and cost information. Mr. Danford stated that a management company coming in would be able to help with that. Danford discussed that costs will change from year to year, and a management company would advise Solid Waste on how to distribute charges. Commissioner Peters agreed. Commissioner Williams expressed the need to reduce ad valorem.

PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET/FUEL COST

Public Works Director Gerald Shearer informed the Board that he is 10% in the red on his fuel line budget. The Board discussed the problem of escalating fuel prices, and Commissioner McLemore suggested that Mr. Butler and Mr. Shearer readdress the budget for Public Works. Sheriff Nugent discussed that the Board requested a 0% increase on the budgets, but it will not be possible due to fuel costs. Sheriff Nugent discussed the possibility of installing a fuel line item in the budget so the various departments can come to the Board for approval when in need of additional funds for fuel.

Sheriff Nugent stated this will prevent the Board from having to distribute money to all of the departments, requesting more fuel, and limit the possibility of left over funds being spent on other items instead of fuel. Chairman Traylor agreed and stated that the Board will look into it.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Commissioner McLemore expressed his concern with the Mosquito Control's budget request for the 08-09 fiscal year, stating that he would like to compare Gulf County's Mosquito Control budget with surrounding Counties. Commissioner McLemore informed the Board of surrounding counties budget's for Mosquito Control, some with more square millage, with significantly smaller budgets than Gulf County Mosquito Control. McLemore stated that in Calhoun County, the Health Department is in charge of Mosquito Control. Commissioner McLemore stated that Mosquito Control can be run effectively for less money, and requested that the Board look into it. Commissioner McLemore stated that Franklin County has a budget of \$154,000.00, with one full time director, one full time assistant, and temporary sprayers. Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran discussed that the budget the Board is looking at is the proposed budget, and it includes certain expenditures, such as aerial spraying, that will not necessarily be used. Commissioner McLemore stated that there are two things Mosquito Control is required to do; satisfy the State, and spray. Danford discussed the importance of larvaciding, and stated that Dewitt Polus, Mosquito Control Director in Franklin County, would confirm that he does not have the funds he needs to run an effective Mosquito Control program. Danford stated that they will do as much as they can with the budget that the Board approves. Upon Mr. Danford's inquiry, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier stated that she spoke with the Mosquito Control Director in Calhoun County, who reported that, in order to run an effective program, he would need over \$1 million dollars. Danford stated that Mosquito Control requested what would be ideal for the budget. Commissioner Peters and Commissioner Barnes discussed conducting an investigation to compare the amount of homes, and residential areas between Gulf County and Franklin County. Commissioner Williams discussed that he would like to see an analysis of State requirements for Mosquito Control. Chairman Traylor discussed that Mosquito Control is not a mandated item, and stated that he would like to look into the state mandates for mosquito control. Mr. Danford stated that the chicken program is not mandated, but the State does provide supplies, in exchange for running the program. Mr. Danford discussed that if Mosquito Control has a demonstrable increase of chickens that test positive for mosquito carried diseases, then Mosquito Control will be able to spray unlimited, instead of waiting for someone to possibly contract a disease and die. Upon Commissioner McLemore's inquiry, Mr. Danford explained that an increase in trap counts, would not allow for that. Chairman Traylor suggested that Administrator Butler set up a meeting with the Director of Mosquito Control in Franklin County. Commissioner Peters discussed the importance of chicken testing to public safety. Mr. Danford stated that he would like to take two Commissioners to the annual Dodd meeting with them, which is an introductory course to Mosquito Control. Danford stated that the school was named after a man who was very involved in the educational aspect of Mosquito Control, before he passed away, and it is where employees go each year to get re-certified and take additional courses on Mosquito Control. Commissioner Peters motioned to send Commissioner McLemore to the annual meeting. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Williams suggested that Commissioner

McLemore return with an executive overview of the class. Commissioner McLemore motioned to send Commissioner Williams to the annual meeting. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Williams inquired if they could do that legally, and Attorney McFarland stated that they could. Administrator Butler stated that Mr. Danford has been working on a RFP for contracting out the Mosquito Control program. Mr. Danford stated that there is one company in the United States that does this, and there is one County in Florida that uses the company. Mr. Danford stated that there are a lot more rules that you must follow, when out-sourcing, and discussed the possibility of being required to turn in State provided equipment or repay State funds. Cothran discussed the possibility of funding Mosquito Control through an MSBU. Commissioner Williams agreed that the Board should look into this. Attorney McFarland stated that the Board should already be looking at it, if it is going to be implemented in the upcoming fiscal year. Commissioner McLemore motioned to look into adding Mosquito Control to the MSBU. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

FOUR DAY WORK WEEK

Administrator Butler informed the Board that starting this week the Departments are going to a 4-day work week.

COUNTY VEHICLES

Administrator Butler informed the Board that each Department have given him a list of the County Vehicles, and he is currently reviewing the lists to determine what departments can down-size to smaller, more efficient vehicles, and which departments will need to keep what they have. The Board directed Mr. Butler to review options for the County Vehicle inventory, and make the final decision concerning vehicle replacements.

There being no further business and upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, the meeting did then adjourn at 10:13 a.m., E.T.

**BILLY E. TRAYLOR
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**