

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

**DECEMBER 2, 2008**

### **SPECIAL MEETING**

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

Others present were: Clerk of the Circuit Court Rebecca L. Norris, Deputy Clerk Kayla Duke, County Attorney Tim McFarland, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Planner David Richardson, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Human Resource Director Denise Manuel, Assistant Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Veteran's Service Officer James Kennedy, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, and Emergency Management/911 Coordinator Ben Guthrie.

Chairman Traylor called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m., E.T.

#### **HISTORICAL GRANT SUBMISSION**

Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky discussed the Historical Grant application and the 2008-2009 fiscal year budget allocation for the Old Wewahitchka Historical Courthouse. Upon recommendation by Grant Writer Kopinsky, Commissioner Peters motioned to submit the grant application and certification letters for the Old Wewahitchka Historical Courthouse. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Discussion continued, and Grant Writer Kopinsky informed the Board that this is not a Special Category Grant, but a "Small Matching Grant", which awards up to \$50,000.00. The motion then passed 5-0.

#### **LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY**

Chief Administrator Don Butler distributed for the Board's review, Resolution #94-08 as adopted on April 12, 1994, which is a Resolution amending the Board's policy of the awarding of bids. Chief Administrator Butler reviewed the main points of the Resolution and stated that he had attached some possible ideas for amendments. The Board requested that Chief Administrator Butler and County Attorney McFarland review and bring back possible revisions for the Board's review and consideration.

#### **SCHOOL BOARD REFERENDUM**

Chairman Traylor discussed the School Board Referendum, informing the Board that their vote would only be to allow or not allow a special election, giving the public an opportunity to vote concerning the referendum. Chairman Traylor stated that he feels early voting and absentee voting needs to be available to the public if the Board votes to allow a special election. Commissioner Williams stated that he spoke with School Board Superintendent Tim Wilder and Supervisor of Elections Linda Griffin, and there would not be a great cost to have early voting. Chairman Traylor stated that he would like to know what the School Board's position is on providing early voting on this election. Commissioner Williams stated that the Board cannot dictate what the election rules are, but a request can be sent

to the School Board. Chairman Traylor directed County Attorney McFarland to contact Supervisor of Elections Linda Griffin and discuss the conditions of this election.

**BUDGET**

Chairman Traylor discussed his concern with the budget, stating that he spoke with Property Appraiser Kesley Colbert and there will be a tremendous short-fall this year. He further stated that the Board needs to be prepared to make budget cuts. Commissioner McLemore stated that every department will have to make cuts. Commissioner Yeager stated that the Board needs to start the budget process quickly this year, and begin holding workshops early.

There being no further business, the meeting did then adjourn at 5:59 p.m., E.T.

**BILLY E. TRAYLOR  
CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

**REBECCA L. NORRIS  
CLERK**