

From the Desk of Joanna Bryan, County Commissioner - District III
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

1000 CECIL G. COSTIN SR. BLVD., ROOM 302 , PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA 32456
PHONE (850)340-0013

EMAIL: commissioner3@gulfcountry-fl.gov
DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS • FOURTH TUESDAYS AT 9:00 A.M., E.T.

November 9, 2015

Sent via email: John.Fowler@dot.state.fl.us

Mr. John Fowler, P.E.
District Roadway Design Engineer
FDOT District Three
1074 Hwy 90
Chipley, Florida 32428

FILED FOR RECORD
REBECCA L. MORRIS
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
15 DEC -2 PM 3:01

Dear Mr. Fowler:

At the recent Board of County Commissioners (“BOCC”) meeting held Tuesday, October 27, 2015, the commission voted four to one to send a resolution to the Florida Department of Transportation (“FDOT”) in support of certain modifications to the St. Joe Beach sidewalk project. Specifically, the commission supports terminating the project at Abalone Street in Beacon Hill.

I am writing to you in dissent of the action taken by the BOCC and hereby request that the FDOT complete a more thorough review of the northerly or land side of Highway 98 for the placement of the sidewalk and continue its consideration of completing the sidewalk from Abalone to the Gulf County line.

It is important to note that there was no public notice that the BOCC was considering this resolution or the abandonment of this portion of the sidewalk project. The resolution was not on the agenda for the October 27th meeting. In fact, the resolution was presented to the commission by staff simultaneously to discussion of the issue being raised by the County Administrator during the meeting.

Further, the citizens of Gulf County can only vote for the County Commissioner representing their district. I am the District III Commissioner and the St. Joe Beach Sidewalk project is located solely within my district. I represent the very constituents who are affected by this project and I continue to hear from my constituency that they are very unhappy and outraged by the duplicitous action of the BOCC in their decision to abandon this portion of the project. They are expressing hope that the project can be salvaged. The feedback I am receiving along with the public comments the FDOT has received show there is broad support to complete the sidewalk to the county line.

CARMEN L. McLEMORE
District 1

WARD McDANIEL
District 2

JOANNA BRYAN
District 3

SANDY QUINN
District 4

JERRY BARNES
District 5

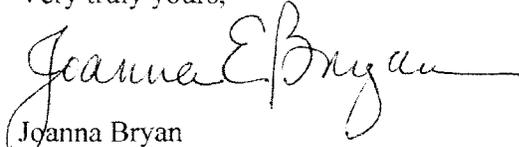
Mr. John Fowler, P.E.
November 9, 2015
Page 2

You and I have discussed several issues affecting this area of the project. You have been very helpful and informative in detailing the issues and working towards resolving them. I believe there is a good possibility that an equitable solution can be reached if we continue to work together.

In light of the broad public support, the overall magnitude of the project, and the amount of work the FDOT has already invested in this project, which if scrapped would likely mean that the project may never be completed, it would appear the prudent thing to do would be to continue to work through resolving the difficulties which have been identified in order to complete the project as originally planned.

Let me thank you for your time and consideration of this letter. If there is anything I can do to be of assistance to you in furtherance of this project please feel free to call on me at any time.

Very truly yours,


Joanna Bryan

CARMEN L. McLEMORE
District 1

WARD McDANIEL
District 2

JOANNA BRYAN
District 3

SANDY QUINN
District 4

JERRY BARNES
District 5

**NOTICE TO RECEIVE SEALED BIDS
BID NO. 1516-03**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing:

FIVE POINTS LANDFILL CLOSURE

This project includes the hauling, placement, and compaction of approximately 75,000 CY of barrier layer clay and approximately 75,000 CY of top soil at the Five Points Landfill in Gulf County, Florida. The material for the barrier layer and top soil will provided by the County but hauled and placed by the contractor.

Plans and specifications can be obtained at Preble-Rish, Inc., 324 Marina Drive, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456, (850) 227-7200. The bid must conform to Section 287.133(3) Florida Statutes, on public entity crimes. Cost for Plans and Specifications will be \$75.00 per set and is non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to PREBLE-RISH, INC. If you have any questions, please call Clay Smallwood at (850) 227-7200.

Completion date for this project will be 120 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed presented to the successful bidder. Liquidated damages for failure to complete the project on the specified date will be set at \$250.00 per day.

Please place **YOUR COMPANY NAME, SEALED BID**, and the **BID NUMBER** on the outside of your envelope, and include the original bid plus 3 copies.

Bids will be received until **4:00 p.m. Eastern Time**, on **December 4, 2015** at the **Gulf County Clerk’s Office, 1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd, Port St. Joe, Florida 32456**, and will be opened and read aloud at this same location on **December 7, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time**.

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners has implemented a Local Bidders Preference Policy for all RFP/BIDS. Anyone interested in bidding as a local bidder must follow the requirements of Resolution 2009-02 which may be obtained from the Clerk’s Office at the above address.

All bids shall remain firm for a period of sixty days after the opening. All bidders shall comply with all applicable State and local laws concerning licensing registration and regulation of contractors doing business to the State of Florida.

The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to waive informalities in any bid, to accept and/or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid that in their judgment will be in the best interest of Gulf County.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
/s/ Ward McDaniel, Chairman**

Ad: 2015-106
Legals – The News Herald
Advertise: 11/19 & 11/26



FILED FOR RECORD
 REBECCA L. MORRIS
 CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
 GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

15 DEC -2 PM 3:02

MEMORANDUM

TO: GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FROM: CHRIS HOLLEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: DECEMBER 8, 2015

RE: ECONOMIC INCENTIVES

Attached for your review, consideration and discussion, is a list of state and local incentives to be used for business attraction and retention. The GCEDC Advisory Board has held two workshops to discuss these incentives, in addition to regular meeting discussions. This document is a valuable tool in order for Gulf County to be more competitive. These concepts have also been discussed between regional organizations and committees.



GULF COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES

Gulf County Economic Impact Team

The Gulf County Economic Impact Team is a public/private partnership established to maintain and grow a strong economic base in Gulf County and consists of professionals who have the authority to make administrative decisions involved in various aspects of a qualified project.

Customized Rapid Response Team Incentive

New and existing businesses are provided with expedited review of all County related services. The Rapid Response Team is led by the Economic Development Coalition Director. Potential customers contact the Economic Development Coalition Director prior to submittal of new development or business expansion to review project elements. The Economic Development Coalition Director establishes the team of County Departments inclusive of the Building and Development Services Department, Utilities Department and Public Works Department for expedited review process for each project. The company must create at least 5 quality jobs with wages at or above the current Gulf County average annual wage; provide significant capital investment in Gulf County, and be a targeted industry in the state of Florida or a local targeted industry.

Gulf County Ad Valorem Tax Abatements

Gulf County may provide Ad Valorem tax exemptions for new or expanding businesses for up to 10 years based on the number of jobs, the capital investment made and the salaries of the new positions.

Industrial Revenue Bonds (IDRB)

Industrial Development Revenue Bonds (IDRBs) finance business and industrial expansions for firms with strong credit. IDRBs can provide low-interest loans for large projects by permitting the borrower to take advantage of long-term financing with lower than prime interest rates. The

County Administrator has the authority to provide procedures for the review of the application and provide consent to issuance based upon the best interest of the County. The determination shall be based upon review of the application and other requested information for IDRB financing and shall include, but not be limited to consideration of: 1) environmental impacts; 2) jobs created; 3) relationship to economic development programs; 4) additional economic impacts; 5) nature of commitment owners and developers of the project are prepared to make to secure the commitment to provide benefits to Gulf County; 6) impact on public service and facilities; and 7) consistency with the County's land development code and the likelihood of obtaining land use and development approvals.

Florida Qualified Target Industries Tax Refund (QTI)

This incentive is available for companies that create high wage jobs in [certain] targeted high value-added industries. This incentive includes refunds on corporate income, sales, ad valorem, intangible personal property, insurance premium and certain other taxes. Coordinated with the Gulf County Economic Development Coalition and Enterprise Florida. Includes a local match provided by Gulf County Government.

Quick Action Closing Fund

Available to applicants qualified to creating new high-wage job opportunities, with exceptionally high wages and capital investment, either by expanding an existing business within the County or by bringing a new business to the County. Coordinated through the Gulf County Economic Development Coalition and the State of Florida. Requires State and County approval.

Quick Response Training Program (QRT) is an employer-driven training program designed to assist new value-added businesses and provide existing Florida businesses the necessary training for expansion. A state educational facility-community college, area technical center, school district or university- is available to assist with application and program development or delivery. The educational facility also serves as fiscal agent for the project. The company may use in-house training, outside vendor training programs or the local educational entity to provide training. Reimbursable training expenses include: instructors'/trainers' wages, curriculum development, and textbook/manuals. This program is customized, flexible and responsive to individual company needs.

Recruitment

The CareerSource Job Center provides free recruitment and outreach efforts to assist employers

in meeting their workforce needs. Past outreach efforts include blind ads to assess the interest in jobs offered by a potential employer coming into the region, file searches of the thousands of registered job seekers listed in the Employ Florida Marketplace, Florida's premier job database, employment advertising, job fairs, direct mail campaigns, outreach by employer service representatives to targeted pools of job seekers including retired military and military spouses, college students, retirees and underemployed individuals. For companies who do not wish to interface with applicants, the Job Center can also accept applications on behalf of the employer, conduct applicant assessments and testing, and pre-screen potential employees.

Rural Job Tax Credit Program

The Rural Job Tax Credit Program offers an incentive for eligible businesses located within one of 36 designated Qualified Rural Areas to create new jobs. The tax credit ranges from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per qualified employee and can be taken against either the Florida Corporate Income Tax or the Florida Sales and Use Tax. The credit can only be taken against one of these two taxes. These tax credits are provided to encourage meaningful employment opportunities that will improve the quality of life of those employed and to encourage economic expansion of new and existing businesses in rural areas of Florida. Five million dollars of tax credits may be approved in a calendar year.

Rural Infrastructure Fund

The purpose of the Rural Infrastructure Fund Grant is to facilitate the planning, preparing, and financing of traditional economic development or nature-based tourism infrastructure projects that encourage job creation and capital investment in rural communities. Grants are offered for up to 30 percent of the total infrastructure project costs related to specific job-creating opportunities.

Economic Development Transportation Fund

The Economic Development Transportation Fund, commonly referred to as the "Road Fund," is an incentive tool designed to alleviate transportation problems that adversely impact a specific company's location or expansion decision. The award amount is based on the number of new and retained jobs and the eligible transportation project costs, up to \$3 million. The award is made to the local government on behalf of a specific business for public transportation improvements.



MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FROM: JENNIFER JENKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2015
TOPIC: GCTDC PROPOSED LEGISLATION 2016

FILED FOR RECORD
REBECCA L. MORRIS
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
15 DEC -2 PM 3:01

Last week I received the attached Tourism Briefing regarding proposed legislative changes for Fiscal Year 2016-17. The topic "Proposed TDT Changes" summarizes the discussion regarding potential changes which would require local TDCs to fund Visit Florida, would allow the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association to appoint 6 industry members to each local Council (instead of the BOCC), and would require 40% of the TDT funds to be spent on marketing.

Please review the attached information for discussion at your December 8, 2015 BOCC meeting.

FADMO

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF
DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATIONS


TOURISM INDUSTRY BRIEFING

by Mat Forrest, FADMO Government Affairs
Legislative Pre-Session – Committee Week 5
November 25, 2015

Last week, the Legislature concluded the fifth of six pre-session committee weeks. Just one more to go! As of today, 962 bills have been filed and things are really picking up speed which was obvious to most of you that saw my quick update on Friday.

As we enter a long holiday weekend, here is a quick update on where things stand before we hit the ground on Monday, literally running, in Tallahassee.

Important upcoming dates:

- Committee Week 6: Monday, November 30 to Friday, December 4
- The Regular Session will convene on Tuesday, January 12, 2016.
 - Tourism Day at the Capital January 20
- Sine Die, Day 60, final day of the Regular Session...Friday, March 11, 2016.

Proposed TDT Changes

The House Finance and Tax Committee met last week and as part of their agenda discussed a proposal from the Chair, to make revisions to the Tourist Development Tax statutes.

The discussion lasted about 45 minutes but in summary, the Chair explained in his opinion:

- There should be a dedicated funding sources for VISIT Florida
- Many Counties currently operate in some gray areas of the law in regards to what they fund with TDT's
- More flexibility could be given to how the Counties spend their TDT's.
- The emphasis for the funds should remain on marketing and that VISIT Florida was an excellent organization for doing that.

This is just the start of the discussion and no votes were taken. The Chair indicated that he was open to working on it with any member of the Committee and that they would likely also work with other House Committees on the issue. A proposal could eventually come forward as a proposed committee bill or as a part of an omnibus tax bill.

www.FADMO.org

PO Box 14629 • Tallahassee, FL 32317, USA • Phone: 850/222-6000

Attached is a copy of the DRAFT legislation. **Please review it closely to determine how it would impact your County.** In Summary though it:

- Provides that the 6 tourism industry members of a county tourism development council be appointed by the Florida Restaurant Lodging Association as opposed to the county.
- Requires all counties collecting a tourism development tax to remit 20% of revenues (after deducting payments required to secure and liquidate revenue bonds that are outstanding as of January 12, 2016) monthly to the Department of Economic Opportunity for deposit into a dedicated fund for VISIT FLORIDA, and eliminating legislative appropriation for VISIT FLORIDA.
- Requires that no less than 40% of county TDT revenues (after deducting payments required to secure and liquidate revenue bonds that are outstanding as of January 12, 2016) be spent on tourism promotion.
- Provides an option for counties to spend up to 10% of TDT revenues to fund law enforcement with a provision that for every dollar allocated to law enforcement, 50 cents must also be contributed to the VISIT FLORIDA dedicated fund.
- Requires a written a proposal be submitted to the governing board of the county for additional authorized expenditures outlined in subparagraph (a) 4 of the statute, and requiring a return on investment analysis.
- Allows for a refund of sales tax on admission to valid sales tax exempt charity events at attractions.

At this point I think it important to state that while I know we disagree with many of these proposed changes the entire discussion was on the value and importance of tourism to Florida. It was stated many times by the members and the Chair that tourism, and the tourism industry, is thriving in Florida. We can disagree with the changes but the entire discussion is how to continue to protect and grow the tourism industry.

Obviously this is an issue that we will be involved with. We need your assistance compiling stats and data from your County so that we can be part of the discussion. We are already working with other associations to express our thoughts and positions however we need your help providing a lot of the data and background that will be basis for our thoughts and opinions. **So we can begin meeting with the Chair and other members on this issue please provide Robert with the following items:**

1. It's important for us to be able to compile an accurate reporting of how tourist development taxes are invested by counties throughout Florida. Please provide us with a summary breakdown of the amounts of TDT currently invested in marketing, beach renourishment, arts and culture, beach facilities, stadiums, and convention centers. If there other categories you feel appropriately describe how your county invests the TDT please add them.
2. Please quantify any co-op amounts that directly or indirectly come through your area into VISIT Florida. I think it is important to show that a large amount of local TDT funds are already going into VISIT Florida that add to the base budget that the Legislature allocates.
3. Take the opportunity to reach out to your House members to explain the local impact of TDT. It's not an appropriate time to call out the troops but if there are a couple of key industry leaders it

would be appropriate to ask them to reach out to your local lawmakers. Please be specific on your concerns though as they are addressed in the draft bill.

4. Please let us know if you have passed a local bill that changes the makeup of your TDC and how this bill might impact that.
5. Any other impacts on your County tourism operations that we might not know if this language was to pass in its current form.
6. Your participation at tourism day is now particularly important. That will be an excellent opportunity to bring leaders from your county to educate lawmakers about the impact this bill will have to your community.

Vacation Rental Advertising Requirements

FADMO along with the Florida Tourist Development Tax Association are continuing to advocate for legislation that would require vacation rental properties to display their Sales and Use Tax Certification number as issued by Florida Department of Revenue when they advertise.

We have talked with other interested associations and are currently shopping a draft of the legislation to Legislators. We hope to secure a sponsor in the House and Senate this month and have the bill officially filed in December at the latest. Stay tuned for more updates and a call to action soon!

Budget

On Monday of this week the Governor publicly proposed his budget for the 2016-17 fiscal year. His proposal is a \$79.3 billion budget that includes \$80 million for VISIT FLORIDA and \$50 million to help maintain the state's natural springs.

Included in this budget, Governor Scott is once again pushing for a large tax cut package. His staff is advocating for \$1 billion in cuts mostly from business areas:

- Elimination of the corporate income taxes on manufacturers and retailers.
- Reduction of the state's tax on commercial leases
- Elimination of the sales tax on machinery and equipment
- Continuation of the annual sales tax holidays on back-to-school items and hurricane supplies.

The Governor's proposed budget however is simply that, a proposal. The Legislature will craft a budget during the 2016 Session and then send it to the Governor for approval. It may contain all, some, or none of the aspects of the Governor's proposed budget. This does get the ball rolling though.



Transportation Network Companies / Short Term Rentals– “Uber” bills

The “Uber” bill is back and will have it’s first hearing of the 2016 Session next week. **HB 509 - Relating to Transportation Network Companies** by Rep. Gaetz, (R, Shalimar) will be heard on Wednesday, December 2 in the Highway & Waterway Safety Subcommittee. The bill is very similar to where it left off last year.

In summary the bill defines a Transportation Network Company (TNC) as “an entity granted a permit under s. 316.680, F.S., to operate in this state using a digital network or software application service to connect passengers to TNC service provided by drivers. A company is not deemed to own, control, operate, or manage the vehicles used by drivers; is not deemed to control or manage drivers; and is not a taxicab association or for-hire vehicle owner. A transportation network company does not include an individual, corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other entity arranging non-emergency medical transportation for individuals qualifying for Medicaid or Medicare pursuant to a contract with the state or managed care organization.”

It preempts to the State the regulation of TNCs and creates a regulatory framework for the operation of TNCs. Specifically, the bill:

- Provides that a TNC is not a common carrier and does not provide taxi or for-hire vehicle service.

- Provides that a TNC driver is not required to register his or her vehicle as a commercial vehicle or a for-hire vehicle.
- Requires a permit from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to operate a TNC.
- Provides an annual registration fee for TNCs.
- Requires that TNCs that charge fares disclose the fare calculation.
- Requires TNCs to provide passengers with the applicable rates being charged and an option to receive an estimated fare.
- Requires the identification of vehicles and drivers.
- Requires an electronic receipt to be provided to TNC passengers.
- Provides minimum TNC and driver insurance requirements.
- Provides certain TNC and insurer disclosure requirements.
- Provides that TNC drivers are independent contractors under certain circumstances.
- Requires TNCs to have a zero tolerance policy for drug or alcohol use.
- Provides minimum requirements for TNC drivers
- Requires TNCs to develop a policy on nondiscrimination and accessibility.
- Requires TNCs to maintain certain records for a minimum period of time.
- Authorizes DHSMV to adopt rules

The bill has not been referred to committees yet and a Senate version has also not been filed yet.

You should note that the House bill, similar to last year, does not address “short-term rental networks, STR’s, which is historically where operations like AirBnB fell. The House bill didn’t include it last year also. The STR language was in the Senate version of the “Uber bill” which has not been filed yet so at this time we don’t know if it will be included or not.

This legislation will likely be one of the most debated of the Session. I’ll continue to monitor it and update you as the bills are filed.

Medical Tourism...no change this week.

Sen. Bean (R, Jacksonville) has once again filed a bill that includes the promotion of Medical Tourism. SB 178 **Relating to Quality Health Care Services** basically picks up where it left off in 2015. The bill specifies:

- The Division of Tourism Marketing shall include within the 4-year marketing plan specific initiatives for the “Promotion of medical tourism for quality health care services, as provided under s. 288.924..”
- The Plan must:
 - Promote awareness of qualifications, services, and expertise of providers in the state.
 - Promote awareness of conferences or training or business opportunities to attract professionals.
 - Showcase healthcare packages and support services by providers.
 - Criteria for how the state chooses such healthcare providers that will be showcased.

The bill has been referred to 3 committees but not heard yet. Also, to date, the language is not contained in any House bills.

Vacation Rental Properties...no change this week.

Senator Altman (R, Cape Canaveral) has once again filed **SB 348 Relating to Vacation Rentals**. It died last year and was never heard in committee.

The bill states:

(b) A local law, ordinance, or regulation may not prohibit vacation rentals, or regulate the duration or frequency of rental of vacation rentals, ~~or set a minimum stay requirement of more than 7 days for vacation rentals.~~ This paragraph does not apply to any provision of a local law, ordinance, or regulation which is otherwise prohibited by this paragraph but was adopted on or before June 1, 2011, or to any subsequent amendment of such a provision.

It has been referred to 3 committees but not heard yet. A House version has not been filed.

Trade Secrets

HB 55 & HB 57 - Relating to Trade Secrets by Rep. Pilon (R, Sarasota) are linked bills that would change the current exemptions from public records request. These bills are also very similar to the Legislation that was on their way to passage last Session. The bills died last year, most likely as a result of the House's early departure.

Both bills, along with their Senate versions, **SB 180 & SB 182 – Relating to Trade Secrets by Sen. Richter (R, Naples)** are moving steadily without opposition.

We received a few questions last year on this legislation and what it might mean for certain vendor contracts with convention centers or similar. As a refresher, it does not impact negotiated contracts. Here is an overview of the legislation from the tourism industry perspective:

Current Situation:

- Florida law contains a variety of provisions making trade secret information confidential and/or exempt from public records disclosure.
- Most Notably, Section 125.0104(9)(d) exempts from public records the following held by a County Tourism Promotion Agency:
 - “Trade Secrets”, defined in s. 812.081(1)(c);
 - “Booking Business Records,” defined in s. 255.047; and
 - Trade secrets and commercial or financial information gathered from a person and privileged or confidential, as defined and interpreted under 5 U.S.C. s. 552(b)(4).
- **S. 255.047 – Publicly owned or operated convention centers, sports stadiums, sports arenas, coliseums, or auditoriums** defines “Booking Business Records” as client calendars, client lists, exhibitor lists, and marketing files. ***The term does not include contract negotiation documents, lease agreements, rental rates, event invoices, event work orders, ticket sales information, box office records, attendance figures, payment schedules, certificates of insurance, accident reports, incident reports, or correspondence specific to a confirmed event.***

Effect of the Bills:

- HB 55 expands the definition of “trade secret” to include “any scientific, technical, commercial, or *financial information*” that otherwise qualifies as a trade secret.
- HB 57, which is linked to HB 55, reenacts all of the public records exemption to incorporate the changes to the definition of “trade secret” in s. 812.081(1)(c), F.S., made by HB 55.

In Summary, the bill expands the definition of trade secret to include “financial information” and reenacts all of the public records exemption to incorporate this change, including s. 125.0104(9)(d), relating to county tourism promotion agencies. The legislature recognizes that in many instances, businesses are required to provide financial information for regulatory or other purposes to public entities and that disclosure of such information to competitors would be detrimental to the businesses.

However, this change only covers financial information provided by businesses and does not include negotiated contracts submitted from a quasi-governmental agency to businesses. In addition, s. 255.047, relating to convention centers, states that the term Booking Business Records does not include contract negotiation documents. In order to exempt these documents from public records law it would require an amendment to the statute.

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REBECCA L. MORRIS
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

15 DEC -2 PM 3:02



LIGHTHOUSE UTILITIES COMPANY

P. O. BOX 428
PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA 32457
PHONE: 850-227-7427

BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
2015 NOV -9 AM 11:11
GULF COUNTY

Section 367.0816, Florida Statutes, requires that rate case expense be recovered over a period of four years. The statute further requires that the rates of the utility be reduced immediately at the conclusion of the four years by the amount of rate case expense previously included in the rates.

Lighthouse Utilities Company, Inc. was granted a rate increase by the Florida Public Service Commission in Order No. PSC-11-0368-PAA-WU, in Docket No. 100128-WU. The four-year recovery period for rate case expense has expired. Effective October 28, 2015, the rates will be reduced as follows:

WATER RATES - MONTHLY
RESIDENTIAL AND GENERAL SERVICE

	<u>Current Rates</u>	<u>New Rates After Rate Case Expense Removal</u>
Base Facility Charge by Meter Size		
5/8" X 3/4"	\$ 15.31	\$ 14.72
1"	22.97	22.09
1 1/2"	38.28	36.82
2"	76.55	73.62
3"	122.48	117.80
4"	244.96	235.60
6"	382.75	368.12
8"	1,377.90	1,325.24
10"	2,219.95	2,135.10
Charge per 1,000 gallons	\$ 3.74	\$3.60

If you have any questions, you may call the utility at (850) 227-7427.

INFORMATION
DATE 12/8/15 KS



PREBLE-RISH INC

November 16, 2015

Mr. Ward McDaniel
Chairman, Gulf County BOCC
1000 Cecil G. Costin Sr. Blvd.
Port St. Joe, FL 32457

**RE: PSJ Communications Tower
Preble-Rish Project No. 003.000**

FILED FOR RECORD
REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
15 DEC -2 PM 3:02

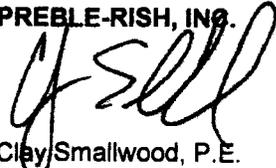
Dear Mr. McDaniel:

Preble-Rish, Inc. (PRI) is pleased to provide you with this Professional Services Proposal for the above referenced project. It is our understanding the County plans to remove existing equipment on the communications tower in Port St. Joe and replace with new equipment. This will require a wind load analysis on the existing tower including the new equipment to calculate the proper tension in the guy cables. The results of the analysis will be provided to the County in a written report. PRI will coordinate this work with our sub consultant, Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc for a lump sum fee of **\$5,000.00**.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide engineering services for Gulf County. If this proposal is acceptable, please sign the space provided below and return one copy to PRI. Should you have questions or need additional information, please give me a call at 850.227.7200.

Sincerely,

PREBLE-RISH, INC.


Clay Smallwood, P.E.
Project Manager

Accepted By:


Ward McDaniel
Chairman

S:\003.000\Radio Towers\111615 GC Proposal.doc

324 MARINA DRIVE, PORT ST. JOE, FL 32456 P (850) 227-7200 F (850) 227-7215

PANAMA CITY • SANTA ROSA BEACH • BLOUNTSTOWN
FT. WALTON BEACH • FREEPORT • MONTICELLO • QUINCY • CRAWFORDVILLE • TALLAHASSEE
LAKE CITY • MARIANNA • PENSACOLA • DAPHNE, AL • PÉTION-VILLE, HAÏTI

INFORMATION
DATE 12/8/15 1745



FLORIDA

Executive
Director
Marshall Stranburg

October 30, 2015

Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk of Court & Comptroller
Gulf County Board of Commissioners
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Room 149
Port St. Joe, 32456

Re: Truth in Millage (TRIM) Certification

Dear Ms. Norris:

The Department of Revenue has reviewed the millage certification documents your taxing authority submitted. The department has found no violation of the certification requirements in subsections 200.065(1)-(4), (6)-(12), (14), and (15), Florida Statutes, and therefore accepts your certification as meeting the stated requirements.

The department has also reviewed the maximum millage levy calculation final disclosure documents your taxing authority submitted. The department's review included documents relating to the millage levying processes and the total taxes levied by your principal taxing authority and any dependent special districts and MSTUs (for counties). Based on these documents, the department has determined that your taxing authority is in compliance with the maximum total taxes levied requirements, and thus the maximum millage levy requirements, of s. 200.065(5), Florida Statutes.

Sincerely,

Dr. Maurice M. Gogarty, Director
Property Tax Oversight Program

SCANNED

MMG/ars #33.01

24 :01 AM 9 - NOV 2015

Child Support – Ann Coffin, Director • General Tax Administration – Maria Johnson, Director
Property Tax Oversight – Dr. Maurice Gogarty, Director • Information Services – Damu Kuttikrishnan, Director

<http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/>
Florida Department of Revenue
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0100

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
REBECCA L. NORRIS
INFORMATION
DATE: 12/8/15 KS

From: Joanna Bryan <Commissioner3@gulfcountry-fl.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2015 5:04 PM
To: Joanna Bryan
Subject: Fwd: SR 30 US 98 Sidewalk from Pine Street to Bay County line (15-11604)

FILED FOR RECORD
PUBLIC CLERK
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
15 DEC -2 PM 3:01

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Vickery, Greg" <Greg.Vickery@dot.state.fl.us>
Date: November 24, 2015 at 1:02:00 PM EST
To: "commissioner3@gulfcountry-fl.gov" <commissioner3@gulfcountry-fl.gov>
Cc: "jtnovak@novaklaw.us" <jtnovak@novaklaw.us>, "bocc@gulfcountry-fl.gov" <bocc@gulfcountry-fl.gov>, "dbutler@gulfcountry-fl.gov" <dbutler@gulfcountry-fl.gov>, "Barfield, Tommy" <Tommy.Barfield@dot.state.fl.us>, "Peters, Jason" <Jason.Peters@dot.state.fl.us>, "Battles, Regina" <Regina.Battles@dot.state.fl.us>, "Perdue, Jared" <Jared.Perdue@dot.state.fl.us>, "Fowler, John" <John.Fowler@dot.state.fl.us>, "McDaniel, Alicia" <Alicia.McDaniel@dot.state.fl.us>, "Johnson, Carter" <Carter.Johnson@dot.state.fl.us>, "Satter, Ian" <Ian.Satter@dot.state.fl.us>
Subject: SR 30 US 98 Sidewalk from Pine Street to Bay County line (15-11604)

Florida Department of Transportation
District Three Administration Building
Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607
Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

November 24, 2015

The Honorable Joanna Bryan
County Commissioner, District 3
Gulf County Board of County Commissioners
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Room 302
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456

**Subject: SR 30 US 98 Sidewalk from Pine Street to Bay County line
Financial Project Number: 433569-1-31-01**

Dear Commissioner Bryan:

We received Resolution 2015-44 from the Gulf County Commission requesting (1) termination of the sidewalk project at Abalone Street, (2) construction of a new crosswalk at Pine Street, and (3) eastward extension of the project to connect to Old US Highway 98 and the new Gulf County fishing pier. Your letter specifically dissented from item 1 above. Further, you asked the Department to complete a more thorough review of the northern side of US 98 between Abalone Street and the Bay County line to determine if sidewalk construction through that area might be possible. Thank you for the opportunity to provide assistance.

It is the Department's intent to abide by the wishes of the Commission. However, if the Commission is willing to revise their resolution to support sidewalk along the north side of US 98, the Department will continue to pursue that option. On the other hand, if the Commission is unwilling to revise Resolution 2015-44, then the Department will terminate the sidewalk at Abalone Street as requested. If you have any questions concerning this matter, feel free to contact Mr. Jared Perdue, P.E., District Design Engineer, at 850-330-1492.

Thank you for your continued support in providing a safe and efficient transportation system for the citizens of Gulf County. If we can assist you further, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

/s/ James T. Barfield

James T. Barfield, P.E.
District Secretary

JTB/gv



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



In Reply Refer To:
FWS/AES/DBTS/BGMTS/061600

NOV 19 2015

Mr. Ward McDaniel
Chairman
Gulf County
1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard
Port St. Joe, Florida 32456

GULF COUNTY
2015 NOV 23 PM 12: 11
BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

Dear Chairman McDaniel:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) published a notice in the *Federal Register* on November 17, 2015 (80 FR 71826), to announce the availability of draft revised maps for the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) units in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York (Great Lakes region), Ohio, and Wisconsin, for stakeholder review and comment. The draft maps help fulfill a directive in the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) that requires the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to review the CBRS maps at least once every five years and make minor and technical modifications necessary to reflect changes in the size or location of the CBRS units as a result of natural forces (16 U.S.C 3503(c)). The CBRA requires that these minor and technical modifications be made in consultation with the appropriate Federal, State, and local officials. We therefore invite you to review the draft maps and provide input to the Service during a 30-day stakeholder review period that will close on December 17, 2015. The *Federal Register* notice, draft maps, and additional information concerning the CBRS can be found on the Service's website at <http://www.fws.gov/ecological-services/habitat-conservation/coastal.html>.

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GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

The CBRA of 1982 (16 U.S.C. 3501 et. seq.) was enacted by Congress to minimize the loss of human life, reduce wasteful Federal expenditures, and minimize damage to the natural resources associated with coastal barriers. The CBRA established the CBRS, a defined set of geographic units located along the Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, Great Lakes, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico coasts. These units are delineated on a set of official maps. Most new Federal expenditures and financial assistance that have the effect of encouraging development, including Federal flood insurance, are prohibited within the CBRS. CBRA does not prohibit development, and it imposes no restrictions on development conducted with non-Federal funds.

The Secretary, through the Service, is responsible for administering the CBRA, which includes maintaining and modernizing the official maps of the CBRS, consulting with other Federal agencies concerning proposed Federal expenditures within the CBRS, and making recommendations to Congress regarding proposed changes to the CBRS. Aside from three minor exceptions, only Congress—through new legislation—can modify the maps of the CBRS to add or remove land. These exceptions, which allow the Service to make limited administrative modifications to the CBRS boundaries, include: (1) the CBRA requirement which considers changes that have occurred to the CBRS by natural forces such as erosion and accretion; (2) voluntary additions to the CBRS by property owners; and (3) additions of excess Federal property to the CBRS (16 U.S.C 3503(c)-(e)). Changes that are outside the scope of this authority cannot be made by the Service administratively; such changes must be made through the "comprehensive map modernization" process (also referred to as the "technical correction" process), which is more time and resource intensive because it entails significant research, public review, and

INFORMATION
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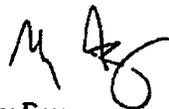
Congressional enactment of the revised maps. Therefore, at this time, the Service can only consider proposed changes to the draft maps for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York (Great Lakes region), Ohio, and Wisconsin that are consistent with our administrative authority to modify the CBRS boundaries.

Following the close of the comment period on December 17, 2015, the Service will review the comments received from Federal, State, and local officials, and make any changes that are appropriate and consistent with the Service's authority to make administrative adjustments to the CBRS (16 U.S.C 3503(c)-(e)). We will then prepare final maps for the CBRS units in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New York (Great Lakes region), Ohio, and Wisconsin, which will be adopted administratively upon publication of a second notice in the *Federal Register*. We will send you a follow-up letter once the final maps are adopted.

The updated CBRS maps are part of an interagency "digital conversion" effort between the Service and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The digital conversion effort was undertaken to improve the accuracy, integrity, and usability of the CBRS data and maps. This effort will help increase compliance with the CBRA by reducing erroneous Federal expenditures (including invalid flood insurance policies) within the CBRS and improve government efficiency and customer service by providing more reliable and user-friendly CBRS maps and digital data to the public. The final CBRS boundaries produced through this digital conversion effort will also be shown on FEMA's Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

We look forward to your input and involvement in this important process. Please provide any comments concerning the draft revised maps by the close of the comment period on December 17, 2015. For additional information, including a summary of the proposed modifications to individual CBRS units and specific instructions for providing comments, please see the *Federal Register* notice dated November 17, 2015 (80 FR 71826), which is available for download at <http://www.fws.gov/ecological-services/habitat-conservation/coastal.htm>. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Ms. Martha Balis-Larsen, Chief, Division of Budget and Technical Support, at (703) 358-2171.

Sincerely,



Gary Frazer
Assistant Director for
Ecological Services