

**PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

**AUGUST 10, 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, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, G.I.S. Director Scott Warner, Planner David Richardson, Public Works Director Joe Danford, Sheriff Joe Nugent, Sheriff's Office Major Bobby Plair, and T.D.C. Director Tim Kerigan.

Sheriff Nugent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., E.T.

Clerk Norris opened the meeting with prayer, and Chairman McLemore led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, second by Commissioner Yeager, and unanimous vote, the Board approved the Consent Agenda, after discussion of item #2, pages 13-14 as follows:

1. Minutes – July 27, 2010 - Regular Meeting  
- August 3, 2010 – Special Meeting
2. Appointment – State 9-1-1 Board (Ben Guthrie)
3. Funding Request – Gulf County Beaches Volunteer Fire Department  
(Firefighter Appreciation Dinner \* to be paid from  
Account #32122-49000)

4. Invoices – County Attorney Timothy J. McFarland (Invoice July, 2010 \* \$9,446.00 \* to be paid from Account #21314-31100)

- MicroDATA GIS, Inc. - G.I.S. & Mapping Software Maintenance Agreement (Invoice #13334 \* \$10,308.80 \* to be paid from Account #24352-46200)

- Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell – General Employment Matters (File #G214-107990 \* Invoice #751594 \* \$1,060.00 \* to be paid from Account #21111-31200)

(End)

#### **VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

Clerk Norris reported that the Value Adjustment Board Organizational Meeting was cancelled due to legal counsel Kristy Banks' resignation; stating that she is now working part time with the Franklin County Public Defender's Office which is a conflict, further stating that the V.A.B. cannot meet without an attorney.

#### **COAST GUARD CONTRACT – DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL**

Clerk Norris discussed that she spoke with E9-1-1 Coordinator Guthrie concerning the contract with the Coast Guard on the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, stating that it has an incorrect address for Gulf County, and the contract has changed. On behalf of E9-1-1 Coordinator Guthrie, Clerk Norris reported that the contract will be on a reimbursement basis with the Coast Guard instead of a direct position through them, as originally presented. Clerk Norris reported that the County will pay the position and then the Coast Guard will reimburse the County. After further discussion, the Board had no objection.

#### **ADVERTISE – PARKS SERVICES CLEANUP**

Deputy Administrator Lanier recommended permission to advertise to receive sealed bids for the weekend parks cleanup. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Williams, County Attorney McFarland reported that this is an annual contract. Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **AUDITOR SELECTION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT**

Deputy Administrator Lanier reported that they have received R.F.P.'s for Auditor Services and recommended the Board appoint someone to serve on the Auditor

Selection Committee. Chairman McLemore appointed Assistant Administrator Hammond to serve on the Committee.

### **DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL**

Emergency Management Director Nelson discussed a packet prepared by Amber Davis and Jack Husband concerning the Deepwater Horizon oil spill update for Gulf County, stating that they have done an excellent job preparing this handout.

### **WEATHER UPDATE – LOW PRESSURE**

Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that there is a low pressure in the South Eastern Gulf of Mexico, stating that they expect it to make landfall in Louisiana last Thursday or early Friday, and we should only receive rain and gusty winds.

### **LANDFILL – CITY OF PORT ST. JOE – WAIVE FEES**

Public Works Director Danford requested permission to waive landfill fees for the City of Port St. Joe for the street sweepings which are hauled to the landfill, stating that D.E.P. rule requires it to be hauled to the landfill. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Yeager, Public Works Director Danford reported that this dirt can be used for landfill cover. Upon inquiry by Chairman McLemore, Public Works Director Danford reported that this would be approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000 in fees. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **S.C.A.T. TEAM UPDATE**

Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that Planner Patrick Ferrell, of Florida Eco Services, LLC is working with the S.C.A.T. Team today and tomorrow. Patrick Ferrell appeared before the Board and reported that they have everything over in the E.O.C., stating that they went to the tip of the Cape (nine miles) cleaning up tar balls, plastic debris, cans, and wood debris. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Traylor, Mr. Ferrell reported that the Coast Guard is reviewing everything at the E.O.C., and that there were also representatives from D.E.P., E.P.A. and a B.P. Contractor there. He reported that there was approximately 10-15 pounds in debris collected.

### **PUBLIC MEETING – METH & PRESCRIPTION ABUSE**

Sheriff Nugent invited everyone to attend a public meeting on meth and prescription abuse on Thursday, August 12, 2010 at 6:00 p.m., E.T., in the Board Room.

## **INSURANCE**

Chief Administrator Butler discussed that the Insurance Committee has met several times concerning insurance, and reported the following recommendations from the committee.

### **HEALTH INSURANCE**

The Insurance Committee recommends continuing the health insurance with B.C.B.S. of Florida. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Williams discussed that the Board previously capped the amount it pays at \$500 for individual and \$750 for family coverage, stating by shifting the cost it is an undue burden on the employees. After further discussion, the motion passed 4 to 1, with Commissioner Williams voting no.

### **LIFE INSURANCE**

The Insurance Committee recommends renewing the life insurance with I.N.G. with no increase to rates. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **DENTAL INSURANCE**

The Insurance Committee recommends renewing the dental insurance with Florida Combined Life with a 7% decrease in premiums. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **VOLUNTARY VISION INSURANCE**

The Insurance Committee recommends remaining with Humana/CompBenefits for vision insurance, stating that the employee pays 100% of the premium. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

## **RESOLUTION #2010-17 – D.E.P. BEACH AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT APPLICATION**

Chief Administrator Butler recommended the Board adopt a Resolution authorizing the County to proceed with submittal of an application to D.E.P. Beach and Coastal Ecosystem Management, for the beach erosion control program. Commissioner Yeager motioned to adopt the proposed resolution. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #2010-17**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO PROCEED WITH THIS SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR STATE FUNDS UNDER PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 161.091, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BEACH AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT, FOR THE FLORIDA BEACH EROSION CONTROL PROGRAM BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012, FOR THE ST. JOSEPH PENINSULA EROSION CONTROL PROJECT PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL POST-CONSTRUCTION MONITORING, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEACH MANAGEMENT APPLICATION, AND THE DESIGN OF THE FEMA RECOVERY PROJECT.**

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners believes that St. Joseph Peninsula beach is in need of a shore protection project; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Joseph Peninsula is recognized by the Department of environmental Protection as having a critically eroding shoreline(s); and

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners supports a shore protection project and is willing to serve as the local sponsor; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners is aware that there is a local funding share to implement a shore protection project for projects authorized by Section 161.101, Florida Statutes.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Gulf County Board of County Commissioners that the Board hereby supports the St. Joseph Peninsula Erosion Control Project, and is willing to serve as local sponsor. The Board is prepared to provide the necessary local funding to implement the shore protection project. The Board also supports the Department's beach and coastal management program.

This resolution adopted by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2010.

(End)

**INVOICE – CITY OF PORT ST. JOE – BEACHES SEWER PROJECT**

Chief Administrator Butler discussed that he received an invoice from the City of Port St. Joe for the final payment on the Beaches Sewer project. He stated that he had

discussion with the City Manager today; who provided a copy of a letter from Siemens who is a third party group that went out and looked at the Hydrogen Sulfide problem at stations 1 & 2. Mr. Butler stated that he had also had conversation with the Engineers. He reported that the average of H<sub>2</sub>S is 121 ppm that still appears to be higher than what OSHA says is 10 ppm is the maximum per place. With only 3 to 4 days run record, Chief Administrator Butler asked for the Board's direction on whether to pay the invoices since they wanted to make the stations were operating correctly. Commissioner Williams discussed that the graft prepared by the independent group Siemens indicates the H<sub>2</sub>S at 121 ppm up to 421 ppm, stating that this is beyond the acceptable levels. Commissioner Williams motioned to deny paying the invoice until further testing is performed. The motion failed due to a lack of a second. Commissioner Peters motioned to pay the invoice. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion for discussion, stating that there needs to be a specific plan, and the odor needs to be corrected. Commissioner Williams discussed that this is a public safety issue and it needs to be corrected. After further discussion by members of the Board, Commissioner Yeager withdrew his second, and the motion failed due to a lack of a second.

#### **ROAD SIGNS – SACRED HEART HOSPITAL**

Commissioner Yeager reported that he has received some calls concerning the lack of road signs for Sacred Heart Hospital on Highway 98 and C.R. 30. Commissioner Yeager motioned to send a letter to D.O.T. for road signs to be placed on the highway. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **MEETING – SENATOR NELSON**

Commissioner Williams reported that he attended a meeting in Panama City today with Senator Nelson concerning local government funding, and that NOAA made a declaration that Gulf County was to be in the \$20 billion dollar fund, to be administered by British Petroleum (B.P.), stating that there needs to be a third party administration.

#### **SUNRAY COURT**

Commissioner Williams discussed the need for clarification on Sunray Court in the Beacon Hill area, stating that it is a private road, and the residents have requested limited maintenance. He requested County Attorney McFarland review and report back to the Board.

#### **D.S.I. CONTRACT – DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL**

Commissioner Williams discussed that the Board previously approved to contract with D.S.I., stating that the rate structures and positions have been approved through the State. Commissioner Williams motioned to terminate all the discussions and contracts negotiations with D.S.I. and follow the guidelines of the State. Commissioner Yeager

seconded the motion for discussion. Clerk Norris reported that on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, based on Emergency Management Director Nelson recommendation the Board was going to seek approval for the Board to contract with D.S.I., stating that this was disapproved by the State and they gave new direction. Chairman McLemore reported that Chief Administrator Butler and Assistant Administrator Hammond have been given the authority to follow through. After further discussion by members of the Board, the motion then passed 3 to 0, with Chairman McLemore and Commissioner Traylor abstaining due to a business relationship with B.P.

### **NORTHWEST FLORIDA CHILD DEVELOPMENT ANNIVERSARY**

Commissioner Peters reported that he and Commissioner Traylor attended the N.W.F.C.D. Annual Anniversary at the Honeyville Community Center, stating that the air conditioner vents need to be cleaned and the air conditioner filters need to be changed on a regular basis. He discussed that when the kitchen is being used at the Honeyville Community Center it is very hot in the kitchen, and recommended putting air conditioning in the kitchen area, stating that this can be paid from the timber sales at the Honeyville Park. Commissioner Peters motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion for discussion. Chairman McLemore discussed that the funds were not available when the building was built. Commissioner Yeager reported that the thermostat has been fixed and it should not be a problem. After further discussion by members of the Board, the motion then passed unanimously.

### **BOOM OPERATION CENTER – HIGHLAND VIEW**

Commissioner Traylor reported that S.W.S. Eagle has a contract for the boom operation center located on the side of the Highland View Bridge, stating that they will be bringing boom from seven surrounding counties to be decontaminated, and this has created a lot of opportunity to extend jobs in this County. He reported that there are approximately 500-600 people working in this area. Commissioner Traylor reported that this site was chosen because of the work ethics in this County and the surrounding Counties from Pensacola to Apalachicola.

### **GULF COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATOR**

Upon request of Commissioner Traylor, Kim Barnhill Interim Administrator of the Gulf County Health Department appeared before the Board and stated that she is the Administrator of the Jefferson and Madison County Health Departments, and Acting Administrator for the Gulf County Health Department. Commissioner Traylor discussed an email he received concerning the position of the Gulf County Health Department Administrator. He stated that he does not understand why this position is being re-advertised, reporting that the Board recommended Jim McKnight for the position because he was qualified for the position. Ms. Barnhill reported that they have re-

advertised this position for Gulf County, and that they are looking for someone with a significant amount of public health experience; stating that this is a federally qualified Health Center in addition to the County Health Department. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Traylor, Ms. Barnhill reported that she has not seen Mr. McKnight's application, but they are looking for a minimum of seven years public health experience. Ms. Barnhill discussed that she is trying to get five years federal funding, stating that they only received the federal funding for one year last year. Commissioner Traylor discussed that the email sent by Ms. Barnhill is very disturbing to him, and should be disturbing to all Board Members. Chairman McLemore discussed that the Board previously approved to recommend Jim McKnight for the Health Department Administrator. Commissioner Williams discussed that the issue is the process in this partnership, and requested the process be expedited.

#### **B.P. FUNDING – DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL**

T.D.C. Director Kerigan reported that T.D.C. has received their additional funds from B.P., stating that the money was disbursed to the seven counties affected; a County Coalition that was already in place. T.D.C. Director Kerigan reported that the \$7 million was divided as follows: 2% of \$7 million to each county, 10% to the 2 most heavily affected Counties, and the remaining (76%) was split based on each Counties bed tax collections. He reported that Gulf County received \$251,000.00, and that this needs to be spent on marketing, events, or anything to bring people to this area; stating that the spending plan has to be approved by September 15<sup>th</sup> with the funds spent by September 30<sup>th</sup>. T.D.C. Director Kerigan reported that he has a general plan for how the funds will be utilized.

#### **SCALLOP FESTIVAL – CONTRIBUTION**

On behalf of Chamber of Commerce Director Sandra Chafin, John Parker appeared before the Board and thanked Commissioner Yeager for his contribution to the Scallop Festival.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner Yeager, the meeting did then adjourn at 7:05 p.m., E.T.

**CARMEN L. MCLEMORE  
CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:  
REBECCA L. NORRIS  
CLERK**