

SEPTEMBER 2, 2015

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

JOINT WORKSHOP

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners and City of Port St. Joe met this date in a joint workshop session with the following members present: Chairman Ward McDaniel, Vice Chairman Carmen L. McLemore, and Commissioners Joanna Bryan and Sandy Quinn, Jr. < District V seat vacant awaiting Governor's appointment>; City of Port St. Joe Mayor Bo Patterson, City Commissioners Phil McCroan, David Ashbrook <City Commissioner Rex Buzzett was absent>, and William Thursbay.

Others present were: County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Clerk Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Director of Finance and Management Rhonda Woodward, Clerk Finance Officer Sherry Herring, Deputy Clerk Leanna Roberts, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Assistant Administrator Michael L. Hammond, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Building Inspector George Knight, Gulf County E.D.C. Director Chris Holley, Deputy Grant Coordinator Kari Summers, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, County Planner Brett Lowry, Preble-Rish, Inc./County Engineer Clay Smallwood, III, Public Works Director Joe Danford, Gulf County RESTORE Act Coordinator Warren Yeager, Jr., Sheriff Mike Harrison, T.D.C. Executive Director Jennifer Jenkins.

County Chairman McDaniel called the meeting to order at 2:59 p.m., E.T.

County Chairman McDaniel led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

COUNTY/CITY ISSUES

After discussion by County Chief Administrator Butler, City Mayor Patterson discussed the Gas Tax Road Revenue Bond, Series 2015 Project, The Port, recreational center, and the Lighthouse.

City Commissioner Thursbay discussed his concerns regarding the water/sewer lines under Long Avenue; reporting that this issue needs to be addressed before this road is resurfaced. After discussion by Chairman McDaniel, Commissioner McLemore discussed the use of District I money (road bond) within his district; stating he is in support of District IV and V using their allotted funds (road bond) to assist the City of Port St. Joe pave city roads. Commissioner Bryan stated that she is in the same position as Commissioner McLemore regarding District III; reporting that she supports District IV and V using their funds for the City of Port St. Joe. Commissioner Quinn reported that he did add Garrison Avenue and Long Avenue to his road paving list.

Commissioner McLemore discussed consolidating the City and County code enforcement and building inspection services; stating that the City and County need to look at this matter further. Chairman McDaniel stated that he is opposed to the consolidation of the law enforcement, but would like to look at the issue of consolidating the two building departments to see if there would be a savings to the community. City Commissioner Thursbay reported that he is open to talk about this matter; discussing that the City and County Administration along with the Attorneys need to meet to discuss this further. Upon inquiry by City Mayor Patterson, City Manager Anderson reported that the City of Port St. Joe has an annual contract with an inspector that expires in December each year. After discussion by City Mayor Patterson, City Commissioner McCroan discussed the percentage that the County previously offered the City of Port St. Joe; reporting this is why the City contracted this service out in lieu of using the County. After further discussion, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There was no public comment.

City Clerk Pierce noted that the City of Port St. Joe applied for another State Historical Preservation Grant and they should know in the next couple of weeks; reporting if accepted, the funds cannot be used until July, 2016. She discussed other funding sources to help with restoring the Lighthouse. City Commissioner Thursbay noted they are open to suggestions from the County regarding this project. Commissioner McLemore discussed the needs within the County; stating that White City Park is in bad need of repair.

Chairman McDaniel discussed the new fencing installed by St. Joe Company; reporting that the St. Joe Company is cleaning up around The Port. He discussed the need to work together to get The Port operational. City Mayor Patterson discussed trying to get the Governor to release the funds that is already appropriated for The Port. Commissioner McLemore discussed his concerns regarding using the County's B.P. Funds on The Port; reporting that he is in support of these funds being used for boat landings, waterways, shelling the Bay, and the Lagoon. After discussion, Chairman McDaniel discussed the jobs that will be created regarding The Port.

After discussion, Chief Administrator Butler suggested meeting with City Manager Anderson and City Clerk Pierce regarding the Lighthouse and CBIR (Community Budget Information Request); reporting back to each perspective Boards. City Commissioner Thursbay stated he didn't have an issue with them meeting to discuss these topics.

Chairman McDaniel reported there is another workshop today at 4:00 p.m., E.T. to discuss RESTORE and encouraged all to stay.

After discussion by Chairman McDaniel, he called for public comment. Amy Rogers, of Port St. Joe appeared before the Board to discuss her concerns regarding the need of a sidewalk on Avenue D. She inquired if the North and South Garrison Avenue is on the list to be connected. Commissioner Quinn stated he will have to look at his road paving list. After discussion, Mrs. Rogers discussed the need for bleachers at Peter's Park. After discussion by City Commissioner Thursbay, City Commissioner McCroan reported that

two (2) bleachers were installed at Peter's Park with F.R.D.A.P. funds. Upon inquiry by Mrs. Rogers, Chairman McDaniel reported that the City Fire Departments are funded 100% by the Cities. After further discussion, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There was no public comment.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Quinn, City Mayor Patterson stated that the City is looking at the PACES Foundation (Gateway Manor) and polling residents regarding this project. He discussed his concerns regarding the use of local contractors for this project. After discussion, City Mayor Patterson reported that the planning board will hold a meeting on September 22nd at the Centennial Building at 6:00 p.m., E.T. regarding this project. Discussion followed.

Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There was no public comment. There being no further business the meeting did then adjourn at 3:48 p.m., E.T.

**WARD MCDANIEL
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK OF COURT**