

JULY 9, 2013 – WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a workshop on Tuesday, July 9, 2013, at 3:00 p.m., at the South Walton Courthouse Annex.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen, Chairman; Commissioner Sara Comander, Vice-Chair; Commissioner Bill Imfeld; Commissioner Bill Chapman; and Commissioner Cindy Meadows. Mr. Mark Davis, Interim County Attorney; and Mr. Gerry Demers, Interim County Administrator, were also present.

Chairman Pridgen called the workshop to order to discuss the County Administrator selection process.

Mr. Chris Holley, Florida Association of Counties, provided an update and timeline for the upcoming County Administrator selection process. He stated that they have currently been in the recruiting process and have received 36 applications, a third of those applicants seem to have Florida management experience. He explained that in moving forward they need to have a successful process.

Mr. Holley questioned the ability to reimburse the applicants for their travel expenses, it is standard practice to reimburse applicants at the standard state travel rate.

Commissioners Comander and Meadows agreed with reimbursement of travel expenses within a reasonable amount. The Board concurred.

Mr. Holley questioned if the Board would like to provide relocation expense reimbursement for the chosen applicant.

Commissioner Comander felt that relocation expenses should also be paid within reason. Commissioner Imfeld questioned how much a reasonable amount would be. Mr. Holley

explained that several quotes would be obtained for the relocation service. He recommended researching that amount and bringing that information back to the Board for consideration.

Commissioners Comander and Meadows agreed that relocation expenses should also be paid.

Mr. Holley briefly discussed the severance pay package and stated that as long as it fits within the state laws that regulate severance packages then they are willing to include that language in the contract.

Mr. Holley discussed the term length of the contract and suggested removing the expiration date because the Board has the authority at any time to decide if that employee is performing their job correctly.

Mr. Holley questioned the intended interview process and suggested observing the candidates in several different settings to determine if they fit well with the community, perform well in public settings, and gauge their communication skills.

Commissioner Comander felt the need to meet with the candidates more than once. Commissioner Imfeld felt that it is important for the candidate, Board members, staff, and the public to all interact with each other in a public setting. Commissioner Meadows stated that the candidates should see the different areas and issues that Walton County has. Mr. Holley stated that a tour of the county is an excellent idea for the candidates to experience.

Mr. Holley explained the committee candidate selection process and their intent to provide recommendations to the Board at the August 13, 2013 meeting.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the skills the Board felt that the County Administrator should possess.

Mr. Bob Hudson, Walton County Tax Payers Association, felt that the Association could provide some help with the committee selection process and would be willing to host a meet and greet setting to allow the general public an opportunity to meet those candidates.

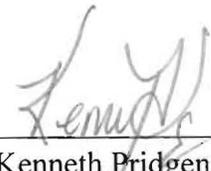
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

ATTEST



Alex Alford, Clerk of Court
and County Comptroller

APPROVED



Kenneth Bridgen, Chairman