

SEPTEMBER 24, 2013 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2013, at 9:00 a.m., at the Walton County Courthouse in DeFuniak Springs.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen, Chairman; Commissioner Sara Comander, Vice-Chairman; Commissioner Bill Chapman; Commissioner Bill Imfeld; and Commissioner Cindy Meadows. Mr. Mark Davis, County Attorney; Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator; Mr. Gerry Demers, Assistant County Administrator; and Mr. Alex Alford, Clerk of Court and County Comptroller, were also present.

Commissioner Comander led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Pridgen called the meeting to order.

Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator, presented the following changes to the agenda for approval:

DELETION:

1. OMB/Finance Department Item a – Request to approve Resolution to authorize divestiture of and transfer of Walton County Housing Agency to the DeFuniak Springs Housing Authority

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the changes to the agenda as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the consent agenda as follows. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

1. Approve Minutes of September 9, 2013 Budget Hearing and September 10, 2013 Regular Meeting
2. Approve Expenditure Approval List (EAL)
 

General Fund	\$ 239,459.93
County Transportation	\$ 315,379.30
Section 8 Housing	\$ 1,272.86
Tourist Dev. Council	\$ 102,765.62
N.W. Mosquito Control	\$ 1,154.63
Recreation Plat Fee	\$ 683.47
Solid Waste Enterprise	\$ 604,870.89
Bldg Dept/Enterp. Fund	\$ 1,202.11
Imperial Lakes MSBU	\$ 2,517.66
Inmate Canteen Fund	\$ 21,184.09
Daughette Subdivision	\$ 5,000.00
Driftwood Debt Service	\$ 53,112.04
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 17,403.20
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 1,366,005.80</b>
3. Approve surplus equipment request from the Supervisor of Elections Office
4. Approve surplus equipment request from various departments
5. Approve Resolution **(2013-71)** amending the budget for the Recreation Department in the General Fund by \$2,000 to account for unanticipated revenue for program fees for FY 2012-2013
6. Approve budget amendment transferring funds to cover unanticipated expenses for equipment and upgrades in the TDC in the amount of \$25,000
7. Approve a budget amendment request from the Department of Corrections to purchase two inmate work crew utility trailers
8. Approve a Resolution **(2013-73)** declaring October 4, 2013 as Florida Manufacturer's Day

Mr. Jones presented the request from Ms. Holly Holt, Department of Health Administrator, for approval of the 2013-2014 Core Contract as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the 2013-2014 Core Contract as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested approval of the Health Department Sliding Scale Fee Resolution (2013-72) as presented.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to approve the Health Department Sliding Scale Fee Resolution (2013-72) as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Ms. Holt announced the Walton Community Health Center open house will be held on October 4, 2013 and the Florida Walk Program. She encouraged all to attend the open house and participate in the Florida Walk Program.

Mr. Steve Jaeger, Economic Development Alliance Executive Director, requested to appoint Commissioner Pridgen, Commissioner Imfeld, and Mr. Larry Jones to attend an Aerospace Leadership Forum in Hamburg, Germany in December 2013. He explained that this represents a very unique opportunity for this region to secure the presence of new industry. The approximate cost for the travel and attendance to the forum is \$2,500 per person.

Commissioner Comander and Meadows expressed concern with the cost to allow three employees to attend the forum and recommended appointing one person.

Mr. JB Hillard urged the Board to allow one employee to attend the forum rather than three as requested.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Comander, to appoint Chairman Pridgen, or his designee, to attend the Aerospace Leadership Forum in Hamburg, Germany. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to reschedule the November 12, 2013 Regular Meeting due to the Florida Association of Counties Conference.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Chapman, to reschedule the November 12, 2013 Regular Meeting to November 7, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at the South Walton Courthouse Annex. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested approval of the Lease Agreement between Mossy Head Water Works and Walton County Health Department to utilize the facility owned by the Water Works for the health clinic in Mossy Head.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the Lease Agreement with Mossy Head Water Works and Walton County Health Department as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested adoption of the adjusted EMS Billing Rates. He explained that a Resolution would be brought back at the next meeting for approval.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to approve the adjusted EMS Billing Rates as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to issue an RFP for EMS Billing and Collection Services. The current contract was not competitively bid.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Chapman, to issue an RFP for EMS Billing and Collection Services as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to deed county road right-of-way to DOT in the areas where county roads intersect with SR 83 (US 331) multi-laning project.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Chapman, to deed county road right-of-way to DOT as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to approve a Resolution **(2013-74)** granting temporary easements to DOT to allow construction to tie into existing county maintained roads relating to the SR 83 (US 331) multi-laning project.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Comander, to adopt Resolution **(2013-74)** granting temporary easements to DOT as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested approval of an addendum to the Waste Management Franchise Agreement pursuant to the Board's decision to pay \$11.93 per month, per residential condominium unit, to the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement. The amendment would allow Waste Management to bill the County for residential condominium services.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the addendum to the Waste Management Solid Waste Franchise Agreement as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to schedule a Workshop for October 8, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. at the South Walton Courthouse Annex to consider inclusion of public comments/suggestions regarding the US 331 Corridor Design/Development Standards.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Comander, to schedule a Workshop on October 8, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. at the South Walton Courthouse Annex regarding the US 331 Corridor Design/Development Standards as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to consider utilizing a phased approach to the signalized intersection improvements of CR 30A and CR 395. The first phase would be a right, west bound turn lane at the intersection. He explained that a phasing approach would result in significant cost reduction. He stated that an amendment would be needed to the previous motion to approve round-a-bout improvements at the intersection.

Commissioner Comander explained that there were many objections to the round-a-bout and expressed appreciation to staff for considering other options for the improvements while saving money.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to amend the previous motion to approve a round-a-bout and install a right, west bound turn lane at the CR 30A and CR 395 intersection. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Jim Bagby, TDC Executive Director, requested approval of the annual agreement with Heffley & Associates, in the amount of \$20,000, for Lobbying Services.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to approve the annual agreement with Heffley & Associates for Lobbying Services as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Bagby provided the following TDC updates: the annual TDC meeting will be held on October 15, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. at the Sandestin Hilton, and there have been 86 volunteer applications received for the 36 committee slots and those will be considered at the TDC meeting on October 1, 2013.

Mr. Bagby asked for direction on the TDC Chairman, as the new year is starting for their committee.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Comander, to appoint Tim Norris as the TDC Chairman. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Bagby requested to reappoint Commissioner Meadows to the TDC Advisory Council. He stated that her term will expire in November.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Comander, to reappoint Commissioner Meadows to the TDC Advisory Council. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Attorney Mark Davis, County Attorney, advised the Board of the new Ethics Legislation requiring four hours of ethics training per calendar year. He provided a letter from the Commission of Ethics regarding the Legislation.

Mr. Jones stated that all Board members have their certificates of completion for this year except Chairman Pridgen.

Attorney Davis requested to schedule Workshops to receive public input regarding the Outdoor Events and Roadside Fundraising Ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Meadows, to schedule Workshops to receive public input regarding the Outdoor Events and Roadside Fundraising Ordinance as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Meadows Aye.

Attorney Davis discussed the Business Tax Receipt Ordinance and Resolution process. He requested direction from the Board to begin the process as it is very lengthy and time consuming. He stated that the process and requirements need to be explained thoroughly to the business community and the general public.

Commissioner Meadows urged the Board to continue the process. The Board concurred.

Attorney Davis requested to reject the proposals for RFP 013-022 for the US Hwy 98 Median Landscape Maintenance and re-advertise for hard bids.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to reject the proposals for RFP 013-022 for the US Hwy 98 Median Landscape Maintenance and re-advertise for hard bids as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Attorney Davis requested to advertise and schedule an Executive Session to discuss a settlement offer regarding Thomas Hicks vs. Walton County, Case No. 09-CA-1709 to be held on October 1, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Brief discussion ensued regarding previous obligations and the appropriate date to hold the Executive Session before October 3, 2013.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Comander, to hold and Executive Session after the Regular Meeting today (September 24, 2013) to discuss the settlement offer regarding Thomas Hicks vs. Walton County, Case No. 09-CA-1709. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Attorney Davis requested to approve a Resolution establishing rules and policies governing public comment at County Commissioner Meetings. He explained that there have been some concerns regarding the language in the Resolution as drafted. He recommended approval of the Resolution and make changes as needed in the future after reviewing all the concerns.

Mr. Jones clarified that the policy can be changed at any meeting.

Mr. Don Riley, Walton County Tax Payers Association, urged the Board to defer action on the Resolution and the need for public input, and to allow further review of the draft.

Attorney Davis suggested continuing the current public input procedures and hold Workshops to discuss the draft Resolution establishing rules and policies.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to continue the current public input procedures for County Commissioner Meetings and schedule Workshops to discuss a Resolution establishing rules and policies. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

The Board members had no items to present.

Chairman Pridgen asked for additional public comment.

Mr. JB Hillard expressed appreciation to the Board for being receptive to public comment and urged the Board to look at every expense in the upcoming year to use funds in the most efficient way.

Mr. Wayne Dyess, Planning and Development Services Director, requested to approve and execute the Technical Assistance Grant Agreement from the Department of Economic Opportunity regarding the US Hwy 331 Corridor.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Comander, to approve and execute the Technical Assistance Grant Agreement from the Department of Economic Opportunity as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

The Quasi-Judicial hearing was called to order and Attorney Davis administered the oath to those intending on speaking.

Mr. Dyess requested to continue the Sunset at Inlet f/k/a Rosemary East major development order application to the October 8, 2013 meeting at the request of the applicant.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Chapman, to continue the Sunset at Inlet f/k/a Rosemary East major development order application to the October 8, 2013 meeting as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Mr. Dyess requested to table the Dune Crossing plat application submitted by Emerald Coast Associates, Inc.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Meadows, to table the Dune Crossing plat application as requested. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

The meeting recessed at 9:55 a.m. and reconvened at 10:23 a.m.

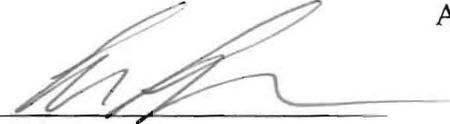
An Executive Session was called to order at 10:23 a.m. to discuss a settlement offer regarding Thomas Hicks vs. Walton County, Case No. 09-CA-1709. This meeting was not open to the public pursuant to Florida Statute 286.011(8).

The following will be in attendance: Commissioner Pridgen; Commissioner Comander; Commissioner Chapman; Commissioner Imfeld; Commissioner Meadows; Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator; Mr. Mark Davis, County Attorney; Ms. Sidney Noyes and Mr. Bill Warner, Special Counsel; and Ms. Kim Permenter, Certified Court Reporter.

The meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Chapman, to close the Executive Session. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Chapman, to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Imfeld Aye, Meadows Aye.

ATTEST   
Alex Alford, Clerk of Court  
and County Comptroller

APPROVED   
Kenneth Pridgen, Chairman