

## NOVEMBER 25, 2014 – REGULAR MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a Regular Meeting on November 25, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Walton County Courthouse in DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Bill Imfeld, Chairman; Commissioner Sara Comander, Vice-Chairman; and Commissioner W. N. (Bill) Chapman, Commissioner Cecilia Jones. Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator; Attorney Mark Davis, County Attorney; and Mr. Alex Alford, Clerk of Courts and County Comptroller; were also present. (Commissioner Cindy Meadows was not present due to family related circumstances.)

Chairman Imfeld wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving and introduced Mr. Gary Mattison, Freeport City Clerk.

Chairman Imfeld called the meeting to order.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the agenda revisions as follows. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

1. Addition: Administration-Request to advertise for a Public Hearing to be held December 22, 2014 to consider a Resolution electing to use the Uniform Method of Collecting Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments levied within the unincorporated area of Walton County
2. Deletion: County Attorney-Item 3 request approval of the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Freeport to repay the sewer loan
3. Deletion: County Attorney-Item 4 request approval of the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Freeport for Fire Services

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the agenda with the approved revisions. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

1. Approve Expenditure Approval List (EAL)

General Fund	\$	874,478.49
County Transportation	\$	621,035.59
Fine & Forfeiture	\$	7,783.67
Section 8 Housing	\$	136,305.88
Tourist Dev. Council	\$	82,672.64
N.W. Mosquito Control	\$	586.92
Solid Waste Enterprise	\$	650,408.02
Bldg Dept/Enterp. Fund	\$	2,310.18
Imperial Lakes MSBU	\$	2,517.66
Capital Projects Fund	\$	25,619.35
<u>Regional Utilities/MHIP</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>382,895.97</u>
<b><u>Totals</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>2,786,614.37</u></b>

2. Approve to purchase a computer for the Landfill not to exceed \$2,000.00 to support the new weigh scale software that was budgeted
3. Approve the purchase of counter tops and cabinets for the new District 2 commissioner's Office located at Wee Care Park
4. Approve the 2015 BCC Holiday Schedule
5. Approve the 2015 Board Meeting Schedule
6. Approve a subordination request submitted through the West Florida Regional Planning Council for the SHIP Program
7. Approve reallocation of funds to purchase a 1997 Pierce Saber Fire Engine in lieu of a Battalion Chief vehicle as originally budgeted
8. Approve Amendment to the Agreement with Habitat for Humanity for Replacement of Housing Strategy Sponsor for the SHIP Program that was approved at the October 28, 2014 BCC Meeting (RFP: 014-020)

Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator, requested to reschedule the Regular Meeting from Tuesday, December 23, 2014 to Monday, December 22, 2014 due to the Christmas Holidays.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to reschedule the December 23, 2014 Regular Meeting to December 22, 2014. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to purchase a pump for the remediation system at the Landfill, not to exceed \$10,604.00; expenditure will be made from the funds provided through the Waste Management Agreement. The pump will be used to pump the collection ponds for cleaning.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the purchase of a pump for the remediation system at the Landfill, not to exceed \$10,604.00. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jones presented the Economic Development Tax Exemption Process for review. He briefly discussed the sections of the proposed process which includes: the authority, Florida Statutes (196.012) requirements, business qualifications, economic impact analysis, level of eligibility analysis, and recommended course of action. He stated that all exemptions would be by contract between the county and the business and shall not exceed 10 years. He requested that the Board either vote to continue working on the plan, tentatively approve what has been presented and apply to the current applicants, or to approve it and move forward. Mr. Jones reported that there are three pending exemption applications; however, no exemptions would be granted at this meeting.

Commissioner Chapman questioned if the Cities of Freeport and DeFuniak Springs had taken action to grant tax exemptions for businesses. He felt that an applicant should begin with the city and their enterprise zones. Attorney Mark Davis, County Attorney, was unsure whether or not the cities had to pass a referendum, and thought that it is only required by the county. He

said that one applicant in the City of DeFuniak Springs did get an ordinance passed granting the exemption.

Commissioner Jones expressed the need for job growth and support for businesses but felt that a conservative approach should be taken. She suggested that the agreement last for five years rather than 10 years. She also suggested that the figures be applied to the current applicants and review the results.

There was no public comment.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve the Economic Development Tax Exemption Process, move forward and begin evaluating the current applicants.

Attorney Davis stated that he was incorrect and that the cities would need to hold a referendum. Attorney Clay Adkinson, Attorney for the City of DeFuniak Springs, stated that the city has renewed the most recent ordinance. He thought that Freeport had also.

Attorney Davis stated that the application for Triangle Chevrolet is still in the beginning of the process. It is currently with the Property Appraiser and upon approval will be sent to the City of DeFuniak Springs and then to the county.

Commissioner Comander asked Ms. Janice McLean, Freeport City Council, if an ordinance had been passed relating to tax exemption. Ms. McLean replied that to her knowledge a tax exemption ordinance had not been passed by the City of Freeport.

Mr. Bill Fletcher spoke in favor of tax exemption guidelines and asked that public hearings be held to discuss the process.

Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jones stated that the tax exemption guidelines will be applied to current applications and may be presented at the December 9, 2014 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Comander said that public comment would be accepted at that meeting. Attorney Davis felt that the Triangle application would not be ready for presentation by December 9.

Mr. Jones requested to advertise for a Public Hearing to be held December 22, 2014 to consider a resolution electing to use the Uniform Method of collecting Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments levied within the unincorporated area of Walton County. He reported that this was approved at the November 12, 2014 meeting but there had been an advertising error.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to advertise for a Public Hearing to be held on December 22, 2014 to consider a resolution electing to use the Uniform Method of collecting Non-Ad Valorem Special Assessments levied within the unincorporated area of Walton County. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to approve Change Order No. 2 with GLC Contracting, Inc. (ITB 014-023) for the United Fire Station. Additional work has been requested to construct a 40 foot split-face paint block façade to the exterior of the building facing U.S. 331. This will increase the contract by \$7,572.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve Change Order No. 2 with GLC Contracting, Inc. (ITB 014-023) for the United Fire Station. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to award ITB 015-007 (C.R. 3280 Road Improvements from Magnolia Lodge Road to S.R. 20) to and approve the contract with Roberts & Roberts as the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder in the amount of \$3,186,992.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to award ITB 015-007 (C.R. 3280 Road Improvements from Magnolia Lodge Road to S.R. 20) to and approve the contract with Roberts & Roberts as the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder in the amount of \$3,186,992.

Commissioner Chapman voiced concerns regarding the \$1 million difference between the two lowest bids and the possibility of multiple change orders. He requested that Mr. Wilmer Stafford, Public Works Director, work to keep the project within the funding range and meet specifications.

Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jones requested approval of Grant Agreement #HL021 with the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for the design and construction of infrastructure improvements to the Northwest Florida Commerce Park (Mossy Head Industrial Park).

Attorney Davis stated that there are some terms that would not be changed by the State.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to approve the Grant Agreement #HL021 with the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for the design and construction of infrastructure improvements to the Northwest Florida Commerce Park (Mossy Head Industrial Park). Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jim Bagby, TDC Executive Director, stated that applications are being accepted for the three TDC Council seats vacancies. The three seats are available to: owner/operator within the tourist accommodation industry and subject to bed tax (two seats); tourism related industry such as retail, restaurant, recreational service, etc. (one seat). He requested approval of the TDC

Applicant Screening Committee. The committee would be comprised of the TDC Executive Director, the County Administrator or his representative, and a Commissioner.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to appoint Mr. Jim Bagby, TDC Executive Director; Mr. Stan Sunday, Deputy County Administrator; and Commissioner Cindy Meadows to the TDC Applicant Screening Committee. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Commissioner Comander abstained from voting on the first issue to be presented by the County Attorney. She submitted Form 8B: Memorandum of Voting Conflict and exited the meeting.

Attorney Davis requested to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a Professional Services Contract between Wade Palmer Shoemaker, P.A. to represent Commissioner Sara Comander in Case No. 07CA000889.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a Professional Services Contract between Wade Palmer Shoemaker, P.A. to represent Commissioner Sara Comander in Case No. 07CA000889. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Abstained, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye. **(Form 8B: Comander)**

Attorney Davis requested to approve a contract with J&P Construction Co., Inc. for the construction of the Wastewater Treatment Facility at the Mossy Head Industrial Park. Mr. Jones said that staff was instructed to negotiate and value engineer the project in order to obtain a compensation amount under the budgeted \$4.4 million. The final amount was \$4.397 million.

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Jones, to approve a contract with J&P Construction Co., Inc. for the construction of the Wastewater Treatment

Facility at the Mossy Head Industrial Park. Ayes 3, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Absent, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Commissioner Comander returned to the meeting.

Attorney Davis requested to approve to schedule a Special Meeting to hold an Executive Session on December 9, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. at the South Walton Courthouse Annex to discuss Fred DeFranchesch v. Walton County (Case No.: 2012-CA-193).

Motion by Commissioner Chapman, second by Commissioner Comander, to schedule a Special Meeting to hold an Executive Session on December 9, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. at the South Walton Courthouse Annex to discuss Fred DeFranchesch v. Walton County (Case No.: 2012-CA-193). Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Mr. Jones requested to remove from the agenda the Public Hearing to consider a resolution amending the County Transportation Fund Budget to recognize Proportionate Fair Share Funding for the East Corridor Multi-Use Pathways in the amount of \$238,000.00.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Jones, to remove the Public Hearing to consider a resolution amending the County Transportation Fund Budget to recognize Proportionate Fair Share Funding for the East Corridor Multi-Use Pathways in the amount of \$238,000.00 from the agenda. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Commissioner Comander requested consideration of a resolution **(2014-118)** supporting the City of DeFuniak Springs' effort to seek State and Federal funding for the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Chapman, to adopt **Resolution 2014-118** supporting the City of DeFuniak Springs' effort to seek State and Federal

funding for the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Imfeld Aye, Comander Aye, Chapman Aye, Jones Aye.

Commissioner Comander announced that Hometown Christmas would be held the Saturday after Thanksgiving and encouraged everyone to attend.

The Board wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

Mr. Jones reminded the Board that they needed to work on Legislative Priorities to be presented for review.

There being no further items to present, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

Approved: Bill Imfeld  
Bill Imfeld, Chairman

Attest: Alex Alford  
Alex Alford, Clerk of Court and County Comptroller