

SEPTEMBER 13, 2012 – WORKSHOP

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a workshop on Thursday, September 13, 2012, at 9:00 a.m., at the Walton County Courthouse in DeFuniak Springs.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner Scott Brannon, Chairman; Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen, Vice-Chair; Commissioner Larry Jones; Commissioner Sara Comander; and Commissioner Cecilia Jones. Mr. Gerry Demers, Interim County Administrator, and Ms. Dede Hinote, Interim Assistant County Administrator, were also present.

Commissioner C. Jones led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Chairman Brannon called the meeting to order to discuss the FY 2012-2013 Capital Projects/Elements.

Mr. Demers, Interim County Administrator, presented the current federal, state, and county priorities for review.

Commissioner Pridgen suggested adding passing lanes to Hwy 331 north. Commissioner L. Jones suggested expanding that effort to four-lane Hwy 331 north in addition to the passing lanes.

Commissioner Pridgen questioned the status of the Mossy Head Wastewater Treatment Facility project. Mr. Cliff Knauer provided insight and explained the flow need of 40,000 gallons daily to function properly. The project was originally estimated at approximately \$4 million which has been reduced to approximately \$2.5 million due to stabilized construction costs.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the permits and the need to keep those current so construction can begin at any time rather than extending the time frame due to expired permits.

Chairman Brannon asked if all the tower sites have been obtained for the Law Enforcement Technology Upgrades/Tower project. Mr. Demers stated that all the sites have been obtained and the project can be removed from the CIP list.

Mr. Demers discussed the Walton County Medical Clinic Project and the need for improvements in Paxton. Ms. Dede Hinote, Interim Assistant County Administrator, stated that the intent is to expand medical services to the rural areas. Commissioner Comander questioned the status of the South Walton clinic. Ms. Hinote stated that the progress is going well.

Discussion ensued regarding the need to address the Eradication of Cogon Grass project. Mr. Kevin Chilcutt urged the Board to designate one employee to address the Cogon Grass issue and provide education to the public to prevent spreading.

Discussion ensued regarding the need to categorize the projects with the lobbyists, then identify funding. Mr. Knauer explained the point process and the need to have all projects on the CIP to ensure point accumulation and funding possibilities.

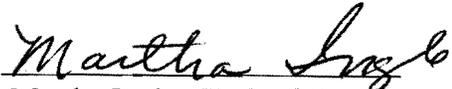
The following were discussed to be included on the CIP list: expansion of the bike paths and trails, Mossy Head Park completion, dredge LaGrange Bayou, a sports complex in South Walton, high speed internet throughout the county, acquire beach parking and walkovers, determine if a recycling program is needed, bunker improvements for staff usage during emergencies, a multi-use motorized path for Hwy 30A, Seagrove stormwater master plan, installation of a path off of the Hwy 30A roundabout for easy transition to the motorized path, acquisition of the Angelos property for future public use, acquisition of the adjacent property to Ed Walline and Fort Panic for future public use, United Fire Station relocation on Hwy 331, a new transfer station at the landfill, widening of Hwy 331 north, construct a recycling building, construct a new county maintenance facility building, centralized records storage facility, fire

department training facility and maintenance garage, purchase of mitigation property, western lake recreation path bridge, creating “look out” areas on new bridges for fishing, incorporating all county roads that need to be paved, installation of awnings at the DeFuniak Springs courthouse location, and expansion of the DeFuniak Springs Airport.

Mr. Demers stated that all suggestions will be reviewed, added to the CIP list, and a list will be brought back to determine the federal and state appropriations.

Ms. Dotty Nist questioned if there is currently a countywide stormwater plan. Commissioner L. Jones stated that has been a topic of discussion many times, but the study would be very costly.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

ATTEST   
Martha Ingle, Clerk of Courts

APPROVED   
Scott Brannon, Chairman