

From the Desk of Joanna Bryan, District 3

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

1000 CECIL G. COSTIN SR. BLVD., ROOM 302, PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA 32456

PHONE: (850) 340-0013 / 229-6106-639-6700

EMAIL: commissioner3@gulfcounty-fl.gov

DATE AND TIME OF MEETINGS • SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAYS AT 9:00 A.M., E.T.

Mrs. Joan Lovelace
6536 Hwy 98
Port St. Joe, FL 32456

August 5, 2014

Dear Joan:

Several people from St. Joe Beach have contacted me concerning the attached letter they recently received. It appears that the letter came from you and although you did not send the letter directly to me I wanted to write to you in response.

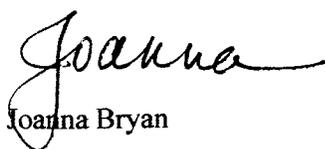
As you know, I have spoken several times with you and your husband, Pastor Lovelace, concerning the signs the Tourist Development Council (TDC) has placed along the beach. Our County Attorney, Tourist Development Director, and other County staff have spoken with you concerning the beach signs. The issue has also been addressed by our County Attorney at a public meeting when raised by Commissioner McLemore.

Contrary to your writing, the beach signs are not a product of my efforts or my project but are a project undertaken by the TDC to educate the public, namely visitors, on the importance of protecting the dunes and the wildlife along our beaches. My understanding is that the TDC has placed the educational signs along the beaches throughout Gulf County – not just St. Joe Beach. In fact, we have received a considerable amount of positive feedback from residents concerning the beach signs.

As I explained to you, I support your rights – whatever they may be. Although I do not agree with some of your positions, I am not interpreting your rights and I am not refusing to help you. We all must live within the laws of the State and I am relying on the decisions of the Board and the advice of the County Attorney. As discussed by the County Attorney and the TDC Director at a recent BOCC meeting which you attended, the County is educating the public to: a) protect the sea oats which in turn maintains the dunes and the beaches and protects us from storm surge, b) protect the turtle and shorebird nests, and c) remind beach-going visitors of the County leash law. I can assure you that I have no intention to cause any abridgement to any rights and that the beach signs are purely informational in nature.

In conclusion, I am always glad to see citizens show an interest in their government and I will, as always, continue to work for you and Pastor Lovelace and all of the people of Gulf County.

Very truly yours,


Joanna Bryan

INFORMATION
DATE 8-12-14 *DB*

FILED FOR RECORD
REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA

14 AUG -6 PM 12: 09

CARMEN L. McLEMORE
District 1

WARD McDANIEL
District 2

JOANNA BRYAN
District 3

TAN SMILEY
District 4

WARREN YEAGER
District 5

Wednesday, July 23, 2014

Attention property owners of Yon's Addition and St. Joe Beach;

The Gulf County TDC along with some of the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners recently had several signs installed on the dedicated beach areas of St. Joe Beach. These signs are an attempt to restrict us from walking on the property which we have every legal right to walk on. This beach is set aside for the exclusive and perpetual use and enjoyment of the property owners. Several property owners believe these officials do not have the authority to enter this property much less place signs attempting to restrict our rights. Please join us in urging our local officials to immediately remove all signs from this property.

Our dedicated beach access takes us from Hwy 98 across the sand dunes to the beach.

If we do not take a stand now for our property rights this could lead to further overreaches in the future. Help now to save our beach for future generations. We urge you to call Commissioners McLemore and Chairman McDaniel and ask them to **take down the signs**, also please attend the commission meeting **Tues. Aug. 12th 9:00 AM ET** at Gulf County Commission Meeting Room in Port St. Joe, FL.

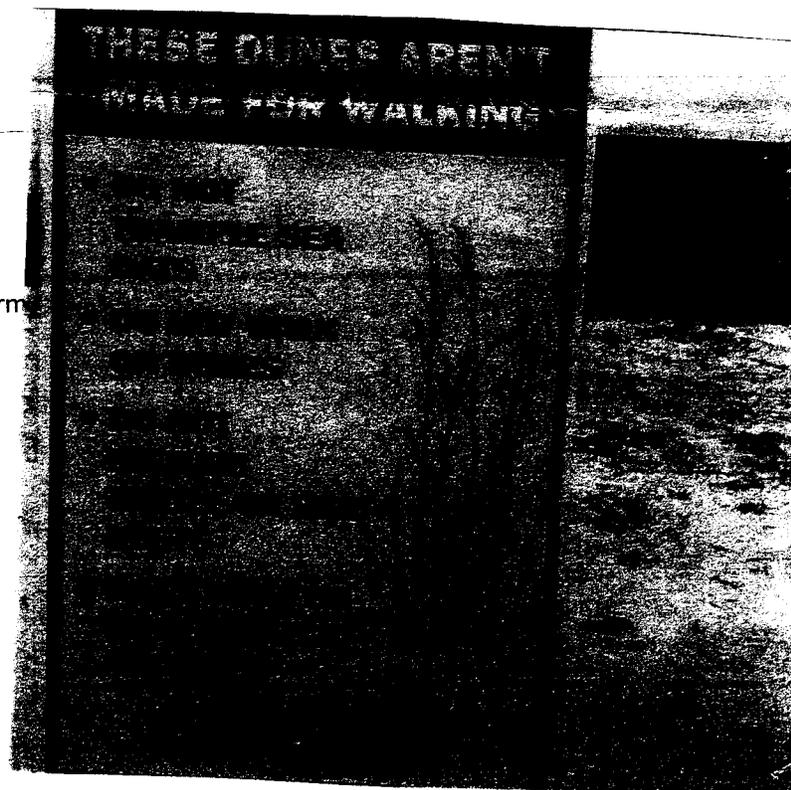
Unfortunately the commissioner elected to represent our interest and our district (Joanna Bryan) is refusing to help us and appears to be behind these attempts at restricting our rights.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

Thank you,

Save St. Joe Beach
c/o Joan Lovelace
6536 Hwy 98
Port St. Joe, FL 32456
HM (850) 647-9358
Mobile (850) 527-2560
Work (850) 227-9414

Gulf County Commissioners
District 1 – Carmen McLemore (850) 227-4965
District 2 – Ward McDaniel (850) 227-5614 - Chairman
District 3 - Joanna Bryan (850) 340-0013
District 4 – Tan Smiley (850) 227-5602
District 5 – Warren Yeager (850) 899-7337



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
DAVID RICHARDSON, PLANNER

1000 CECIL G. COSTIN, SR. BLVD., • ROOM 311 PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA 32456 • PHONE (850) 227-9562 • FAX (850) 227-9563

FILED FOR RECORD
REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
14 AUG -6 AM 11:41

Memorandum

To: Board of County Commissioners
Date: 8/5/2014
Subject: CRS Annual Recertification

For your review and comments before formal approval at the August 26, 2014 regular meeting.

If you have any comments or questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



David Richardson
Planner/Floodplain Administrator

INFORMATION
DATE 8-12-14 *DR*

Gulf County, Florida

2014 Floodplain Management Progress Report

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Background

In order for a community property owner to receive insurance premium reductions for National Flood Insurance, the community must participate in the Community Rating System (CRS) program. As a condition of continued participation in the CRS program, the community is required to complete an annual recertification report and submit it to FEMA by October 1st. The Floodplain Administrator is responsible for the annual progress report. The Floodplain Administrator tracks flood activities during the reporting period and consults with other county departments for applicable input. This document is Gulf County's progress report as compiled by the Floodplain Administrator and the process also requires this report be distributed to the local governing body, the media and be made available to the public. The approved Progress Report will be e-mailed to the STAR in PDF. Copies of the Progress Report have been and are available for review in the Gulf County Planning Department, Room 311 and Gulf County Building Department, Room 305 located in the Robert M. Moore Administration Building. The report will also be available on the County and Planning Department web page as PDF document.

A draft of this document was presented to the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), county departments and the public through the August 12, 2014 information packet for review and comments. The plan is based on the best available data and knowledge accumulated during the report planning period. The draft plan was prepared by the County Planner who also serves as the Floodplain Administrator. The plan is scheduled to be presented to the BOCC for approval at their August 26, 2014 regular meeting. Copies of the approved plan will be available for review in the Gulf County Planning Department, Room 311 and Gulf County Building Department, Room 305, both located in the Robert M. Moore Administration Building. Copies are available from the Clerk of the Courts Office in the main Court House. Both facilities are located at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd., Port St. Joe, Florida, 32456. The current 2012 Flood Prevention Ordinance is posted on the Planning Department's web page and the ordinance was also incorporated into the revised Land Development Regulations (LDR) adopted on June 24, 2013.

Flood Events

For most of the reporting period from August, 2013 through March, 2014, Gulf County had no major flooding activity. In April of 2014, of heavy rains impacted the Apalachicola River Basin causing minor flooding along the river system. Because the riverine system has so many variables that can affect the level of flooding the BOCC as a precaution issued a State of Emergency allowing Gulf County Emergency Management and other County Departments to respond to any flooding issue with minimum delay. There were several road closing, but no reported structure damage. Gulf County was once again spared the disaster impacts experienced by other Counties to the West, especially Escambia County which experienced catastrophic flash flooding. Rain events such as April, 2014 should be a clear example and lesson for taking flood protection seriously and having an all hazard disaster plan in place that will protect life and property.

Floodplain Management Plan Element Review

A. Base Flood Elevation

Gulf County is continuing to require FEMA Flood Elevation Certificates for residential and commercial structures built in a flood zone. We are also enforcing the one foot freeboard as applicable to respective

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flood zones. Permits issued within the DEP CCCL are subject to additional elevation height above BFE to compensate for wave action. All building permits are subject to the flood protection regulations that are part of the 2010 Florida Building Code. Because of the flood protection associated with the 2010 Florida Building Code, the Flood Protection Ordinance was updated and adopted in 2012. In addition to the 2012 Flood Protection Ordinance, Gulf County will begin requiring a Floodproofing Certificate and a V Zone Design Certificate as applicable. Both must be completed by a registered Professional Engineer or Architect. These forms are in addition to and **will not** replace the customary Elevation Certificate (FC). There were no variances approved dealing with floodplain management.

B. Flood Mapping

Beginning April 16, 2009, the County began enforcing the G map series. The G series was a partial map revision for the county that replaced some of the F series maps. So as of April 16, 2009, the Gulf County FIRM maps will reference F and G series maps.

The LiDAR elevation data that was mentioned in the previous progress report continues to be a invaluable resource that provides the county with elevation data that has been used to respond to several mapping issues. The county staff continues to assist the public with their NFIP mapping and flood determination issues. Even though the housing financial crisis is beginning to abate, flood insurance is still a major issue with homeowner mortgages. With the passage of the Biggert-Waters 2012 NFIP Reform Bill, flood insurance will generate a greater economic impact for homeowners.

Additional changes to the FEMA flood maps are scheduled for late 2015/2016. The new maps will be a product of the previously mentioned LiDAR data, new riverine modeling and coastal surge modeling. What the new FIRM maps will have over the older FIRM maps is the quality of data. With the addition of LiDAR elevation data into the riverine flow models and the updated coastal surge models, elevation flood data will be hard to challenge. Even though it will be difficult to dispute the new flood data, the county staff is working closely with the Northwest Florida Water Management District and the FIRM mapping contractors to provide local knowledge into the mapping process. Hopefully, the interjection of local knowledge in conjunction with the technical data will justify a more detail flood study for high impacted areas. The funds for detail studies is very limited and any request for a detail study will be limited.

C. Flood Protection Assistance:

The County has maintained a listing of books and pamphlets for retrofitting existing structures. The County Building Department has remained current with retrofitting issues as outlined in the action plan. FIRM Panels are available in the libraries, the Planning Department, and the FEMA web site. The Planning, GIS and Building Departments use NFIP GIS data to assist individuals in ascertaining their flood zones. An interactive GIS based flood zone mapping is available on a web site hosted by the GIS Department. As The Northwest Florida Water Management District is a cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) with FEMA also has a map portal <http://portal.nwfwmdfloodmaps.com/map.aspx?cty=gulf> that allows access to flood information. A static PDF map is available on the Planning Department web page at Gulf County, Florida Government.

D. Flood Protection Materials

Copies of various FEMA publications have been acquired and are available for public review. The County will assist the public in getting any copies they request. We have also included links to these documents on the Planning Department web page at Gulf County, Florida Government.

E. Flood Warning, Mitigation and Preparedness

Gulf County is very sensitive to the events that affect both coastal and inland flooding. Gulf County Emergency Management Office monitors available data and will alert the proper authorities and public of potential hazardous conditions as needed. The public with a valid 911 address can sign up for Emergency Notification at the EOC, through their web page or <http://www.gulfcounty-fl.gov/911.cfm>. Gulf County's LMS adopted in 2011 is currently under review. The Northwest Florida Water Management District has assumed some of the regulatory responsibility for stormwater permitting from DEP.

Gulf County continues to address drainage issues through culvert permitting and by maintaining ditch and swell infrastructures. The county is still considering a project that will add more culverts along CR 387 (Doc Whitfield Rd.) that will allow flood waters to disperse at several outlets instead of being directed to a single outlet. This action should help reduce the flooding impacts to the Howard Creek area. The County continues to apply for a \$300,125 grant to pipe and fill the Americus Avenue ditch outfall between US 98 and Americus Avenue. This would improve discharge water quality, reduce coastal surge impacts, and turn an existing open space into a more useful open space area for the public.

Gulf County is also working with State and Federal agencies to reduce the coastal flooding impacts to SR 30E at the Stump Hole by continuing to expand the hardening rock berm that protects SR 30E from the Gulf Of Mexico. The project has been funded through grants and the most recent project awarded was for Phase IV construction. The \$22 million beach re-nourishment project bond by the Cape San Blas property owners MSTU was retired last year. The area continues to experience erosion and the project was impacted by coastal storms soon after project completion and before the refurbish beach could stabilize. Storm mitigation with FEMA was applied for and rejected by FEMA. FEMA rejection was largely based on the objection by US Fish and Wildlife who used the CBRA as a reason for opposition. The County maintains that one goal of the CBRA is habitat protection which is fulfilled through beach re-nourishment by maintaining the sandy beach as a coastal habitat especially for sea turtles. Without the re-nourishment project, there would be no sandy beach for recreation and the sea turtles, plovers and other species would lose valuable sandy beach habitat. Also, the re-nourishment project will not increase building density, another goal of the CBRA. The County is appealing the CBRA designation with applicable Federal Agencies in Washington DC and US Fish and Wildlife is actively working to block the change. If the County should be successful, the areas within the CBRA should be able to purchase NFIP Flood Insurance that is currently unavailable due to the CBRA designation.

Any and all goals and/or projects are at the mercy of limited funding as revenue to the County has been and continues to be less than what is needed. The County utilized grants and match funding to fund project priorities.

F. Community Rating System (CRS)

Through the determination of BOCC to enforce the regulations that govern flood protection and the daily performance of their duties by staffs of the Planning Department, Building Department, Public Works Department and Emergency Management/GIS Department, the County maintains a CRS Class 8 rating. This rating is translated into lower premium cost for flood insurance. For NFIP Flood Insurance policies within a flood zone, the reduction is 10% and for policies not in a flood zone, the reduction is 5%. Even with the 2014 revisions to NFIP Reform Act of 2012, the county CRS program has not lost its importance if flood insurance is to remain financially feasible. The Annual Public Outreach letter to the Repetitive Loss Areas by mail and posting on the County Website contains FEMA information sheets addressing the 2014 revisions to the NFIP Reform Act of 2012.

As a condition for CRS rate reductions, the local government participant is subject to a yearly recertification that must be completed and filed by October 1st of each year except for every fifth year. Every fifth year an onsite audit by an Insurance Service Office (ISO) CRS Specialist will take place to confirm all credit activities are still valid. In 2011, Gulf County was subject to and completed a fifth year recertification audit and the next on site audit should be in 2016. The 2016 audit will have to comply with the 2013 CRS Coordinator's Manual that change the scoring of several categories. The staff is continuing the transition to the 2013 CRS guidelines.

G. Biggert-Waters Insurance Reform Act of 2012

This bill was signed into law by the President July 6, 2012 and revised in 2014. The bill contains many reforms and changes to the NFIP and could have sever impacts to several areas of the County. It is estimated that 168 policies will be affected by the reform act. It is highly suggested that you check with your insurance agent to monitor your flood insurance policy for any changes. Fact sheets and other printed information is available as part of the Annual Outreach Letter located on the County Web Page, Building Department and the Planning Department.

H. Recommendations

With the current local, state and national economic recession, the Floodplain Administrator recommends to the BOCC to continue from the 2012 recommendations:

1. that the County Grant Department or individuals to continue to seek grants or assistance to mitigate flooding issues;
2. for the Public Works Department to continue maintaining operational projects such as culvert permitting, ditch cleaning and swale maintenance as part of flood and stormwater control, to continue the use of work order to track maintenance projects;
3. and for the Emergency Management Department, Planning Department and Building Department to continue to implement the Florida Building Code, Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS), Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), Land Development Regulations (LDR) and Flood Ordinance as applicable to insure the health and safety of the County from flood events through preparedness, protection and mitigation;
4. it is also recommended that all future LMS updates follow FEMA procedures to insure the document will be accepted by FEMA/NFIP. This action is recommended because the LMS is a unique document for the State of Florida and may not fully comply with NFIP/CRS document standards;
5. continue to fund the Emergency Notification System to alert the public of an emergency such as flash flooding, river flooding, dam safety warnings, flooding due to coastal surge, etc.;

6. continue to seek grant funding for Americus Ave. and the Doc Whitfield (CR387) drainage projects.

I. Status of Recommendations

1. Progress for this recommendation is totally dependent on funding and affordability.
2. The County continues to maintain the stormwater system as funds and personnel are available. Many stormwater facilities are subject to regulatory agencies requiring permits before any work is done and many of the facilities are difficult to permit.
3. All these recommendation are being fulfilled and updating the LMS is forth coming.
4. This will be accomplished with the LMS update.
5. The BOCC has continue to budget the Emergency Notification System despite the difficult revenue limitations the BOCC is experiencing.
6. These projects are dependent upon grant funding.

Additional Information

Should the BOCC or public have any questions concerning flood plain management, please contact the Planning Department. Should your question be beyond our knowledge, we will seek or direct you to State and FEMA experts to get an answer to your question.

Accepted and Approved by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on August 27, 2014.

Ward McDaniel, BOCC Chairman

**NOTICE TO RECEIVE
SEALED BIDS
BID#1314-29**

The Gulf County Tourist Development Council (GCTDC) will receive sealed bids from any person, company, or corporation interested in providing the following:

Printing of the 2015 Official Gulf County Visitor Guide

**Proposals due by Friday, August 22, 2014 no later than 4:30 PM ET
Proposals will be opened on Monday, August 25, 2014 at 10:00 AM ET**

Proposals must be submitted to the Gulf County Clerk's Office at 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Blvd, Room 149, Port St. Joe, FL 32456. Please provided one (1) original and five (5) copies of your proposal.

Please indicate on the outside of the sealed envelope **YOUR COMPANY NAME**, that this is a **SEALED BID**, and the **BID NUMBER**.

Complete bid specifications may be obtained from the Gulf County Tourist Development Council, 150 Captain Fred's Place, Port St. Joe, FL 32456, 850-229-7800, or from the Gulf County website at www.gulfcounty-fl.gov.

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Gulf County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace.

/s/ Ward McDaniel, Chairman

Attest: /s/ Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk

Publish: The Star -- Legals (1t) August 7, 2014
Bill: Gulf County BOCC
Ad No. 2014-71

BOCC

From: Vickery, Greg <Greg.Vickery@dot.state.fl.us>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2014 5:43 PM
To: commissioner5@gulfcounty-fl.gov
Cc: Prasad, Ananth; Barfield, Tommy; Peters, Jason; Gainer, Phillip; Martin, Blair; Bruner, Joseph Brandon; O'Rourke, Gerard; Johnson, Carter; De Greef, Willem; Satter, Ian; bocc@gulfcounty-fl.gov
Subject: Gulf Coast Parkway (14-05183)

Florida Department of Transportation
 District Three Administration Building
 Office of the District Secretary
 Post Office Box 607
 Chipley, Florida 32428-0607

July 29, 2014

The Honorable Warren J. Yeager, Jr.
 County Commissioner, District 5
 Gulf County Board of County Commissioners
 1000 Cecil G. Costin, Sr. Boulevard, Room 302
 Port St. Joe, Florida 32456

FILED FOR RECORD
 REBECCA L. MORRIS
 CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
 GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA
 2014 AUG -6 AM 11:46

Subject: Gulf Coast Parkway

Dear Commissioner Yeager:

We received your letter relaying concerns regarding the Gulf Coast Parkway project. Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts concerning this transportation project.

As you know, we met on May 27, 2014 to discuss Gulf County's concerns with this project. In addition, our staff met with U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) staff on June 17, 2014 regarding the noted concerns. Presently, we are looking at developing another alternative to combine the needs of Bay and Gulf Counties and, if approved by FHWA, will be presented to the public along with the original recommended alternative.

As always, we appreciate your continued support in providing an efficient transportation system for the citizens of Gulf County. If we can assist you further, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

/s/ James T. Barfield

James T. Barfield, P.E.
 District Secretary

Handled by:
 Greg Vickery
 District Communications Coordinator
 Florida Department of Transportation
 District 3 Administration Building

INFORMATION **10**
 DATE 8-12-14 CC

Office of the District Secretary
Post Office Box 607, Chipley, Florida 32428
850-330-1529
greg.vickery@dot.state.fl.us