

JULY 7, 2015

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

SPECIAL MEETING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in special session with the following members present: Chairman Ward McDaniel, Vice-Chairman Carmen L. McLemore, and Commissioners Joanna Bryan, Sandy Quinn, Jr., and Warren J. Yeager, Jr.

Others present were: County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Clerk of the Circuit Court Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Finance Director Sherry Herring, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Assistant Administrator Michael L. Hammond, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Building Inspector George Knight, Central Services Director Denise Manuel, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Deputy Grant Coordinator Kari Summers, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, County Planner Brett Lowry, Sheriff Mike Harrison, T.D.C. Director Jennifer Jenkins, T.D.C. Deputy Director Towan Kopinsky, Veteran's Service/S.H.I.P. Coordinator Joe Paul, and E.D.C. Assistant Michelle Perrin Childs.

Chairman McDaniel called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m., E.T.

BOARD MEETING RULES OF PROCEDURE AND POLICY

County Attorney Novak presented to the Board a proposed meeting rules of procedure and policy <copy not provided to Clerk for the record during the meeting>. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment from the Board members. Upon request by Commissioner Bryan, in detail County Attorney Novak went through the changes and revisions to the proposed policy that was tabled on the June 23, 2015 meeting. County Attorney Novak noted that all advisory committees are subject to the same Rules of Procedure. Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt the Board Meeting Rules of Procedure and Policy. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion for discussion. After discussion by members of the Board and Staff, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. Tom Graney, of St. Joe Beach appeared before Board to discuss his concerns regarding this proposed policy and government accountability, stating that he agrees with Commissioner Bryan. When Mr. Graney's time to speak was exhausted, Commissioner Bryan motioned to extend his time. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously to allow Mr. Graney an additional three (3) minutes. Discussion continued between Mr. Graney and the Board. After discussion, Clerk Norris stated the motion for the record as requested by Chairman McDaniel. There being no further comment, the motion then passed 4-1, with Commissioner Bryan voting no.

ROAD BOND – ROAD LIST DISTRIBUTION

Chief Administrator Butler discussed and presented a proposed County road list for Board review <copy provided to the Clerk for the record>; reported that some of the roads on this list that the County grades are not County owned, but the County has Limited Maintenance Agreements. Chairman McDaniel stated that he meet with City of Wewahitchka Manager Don Minchew regarding the City's road list; reporting that the City of Wewahitchka has provided him with their road list. Commissioner Yeager suggested that the roads with Limited Maintenance Agreements not be paved. Upon inquiry by Chairman McDaniel regarding whether the State is in the game of State and County roads intersect, Chief Administrator Butler stated proper permitting would have to be done by the engineer. Commissioners McLemore, Quinn, and McDaniel stated they are good with their lists in allowing Staff to move forward. Commissioners Yeager and Bryan stated that they need to review their road list further before notifying Staff.

EMERGENCY BEACH DRIVING ORDINANCE RATIFICATION (2015-08)

County Attorney Novak discussed meeting with the affected Constitutional Officers (Clerk and Sheriff) and the County Judge regarding the recent passage of the Beach Driving Ordinance (#2015-08) and authority to make changes; noting three (3) were made as follows: 1. "regulate" in the 5th Whereas Clause was corrected to "regular"; 2. strengthened the language in Section 2(b) and (3) corrected a typographical error changing the wording in Section 7(a) from "request" to "shall". Upon request by Chairman McDaniel, County Attorney Novak read Section 7(a) for the record, as follows:

Section 7(a): Driving on the beach without first having obtained a valid permit shall result in a fine of \$500.00** for the first time offense. For a second offense, the fine shall be \$750.00.

**Upon issuance of a citation, the violator may purchase a beach driving permit through Gulf County Tax Collectors Office within seven (7) calendar days of receipt the violation and thereafter upon proof of identification and proof of purchase of annual permit to the Clerk of Court may elect to enter a guilty plea to the citation and simultaneously shall reduce the penalty to a total of \$100 in addition to the annual permit fee paid.

Upon request by County Attorney Novak, Commissioner Yeager motioned to ratify the changes in Ordinance 2015-08. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. Vince Bishop, of Cape San Blas appeared before the Board to inquire about personal property owners' ability to have private access; whether the Sheriff will stop them when the beach is closed, and whether friends will be allowed to access the beach from their private property. Chairman McDaniel directed the Clerk to freeze Mr. Bishop's time. County Attorney Novak stated that the State requires permits; reporting that if the Florida Statutes are violated, persons will be fined. Mr. Bishop discussion his concerns regarding storm events, beach closure, Emergency Declarations, and public safety issues. County Attorney Novak stated that he spoke with D.E.P. (Florida Department of Environmental Protection) regarding our <Commissioner Bryan left the meeting at 9:42 a.m., E.T.> local Ordinance and it is in line with D.E.P. and Florida Statutes. Phil Perkins, of Cape San Blas appeared before the Board to discuss his concerns regarding an article that was in The Star newspaper regarding beach driving.

Chairman McDaniel directed the Clerk to hold Mr. Perkins time. After discussion by County Attorney Novak, Mr. Perkins stated that the language is confusing regarding beach driving access for private property owners. Chairman McDaniel directed the Clerk to hold Mr. Perkins time. After further discussion, Pat Hardman, of Port St. Joe appeared before the Board to discuss her concerns regarding the way the language is now that people think they can have beach driving access from private property. Commissioner Yeager stated that this matter is addressed in Florida Statutes. Upon request by Chairman McDaniel, Clerk Norris stated the motion for the record. There being no further public comment, the motion the passed unanimously (4-0). <Commissioner Yeager left the meeting at 9:57 a.m., E.T.>

RV PERMIT FEES

Chief Administrator Butler reported that the RV Ordinance (#2015-06) calls for permitting and fees of RV's (Recreational Vehicles). Chief Administrator Butler recommended a twenty dollar (\$20.00) fee, an application requirement, and proof of insurance; stating that this would be processed/handled through the Building Department. Commissioner Quinn motioned to accept Chief Administrator Butler's recommendation. Chairman McDaniel passed the Chair to Vice Chairman McLemore and then seconded the motion. Upon inquiry by Chairman McLemore, Chief Administrator Butler stated that the \$20.00 fee applies to RV's along the Coastal Corridor. County Attorney Novak discussed Section C(3); stating that everyone (all) must register but only those within the Coastal Corridor would pay the \$20.00 fee. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously (3-0). Chairman McLemore returned the Chair to Commissioner McDaniel.

S.H.I.P. FUNDING AND SUBORDINATION REVIEW

S.H.I.P. Coordinator Paul appeared before the Board to recommend three (3) S.H.I.P. Rehabilitation Assistance award letters: 1. Marathal O. Daniels; up to \$40,000.00; 2. Lester Hand; up to \$7,500.00 and; 3. Mary Cintel Davis; up to \$7,500.00. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

S.H.I.P. Coordinator Paul requested that the Board subordinate Sonia Evette Farmers' S.H.I.P. loan; recommending that the Board go ahead and issue a Satisfaction on the Note, only having \$70.98 remaining due in the ten (10) year forgiveness cycle. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously (3-0).

Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Quinn, and an unanimous 3-0 vote, the meeting did then adjourn at 10:07 a.m., E.T.

**WARD MCDANIEL
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECC L. NORRIS
CLERK**