

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

JUNE 11, 2007

REGULAR MEETING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in regular session with the following members present: Acting Chairman Jerry W. Barnes and Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore, Billy E. Traylor and Nathan Peters, Jr. <Chairman Bill Williams was absent>.

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy McFarland, Clerk Becky Norris, Clerk Executive Administrator Towan Kopinsky, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Deputy Clerk Tracy Whitehurst, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Emergency Management Secretary Stephanie Richardson, Grant Writer Loretta Costin, Gulf County E.M.S. Director Shane McGuffin, Human Resources Director Denise Manuel, Planner David Richardson, Road Department Superintendent Bobby Knee, Solid Waste Director Joe Danford, T.D.C. Director Paula Pickett, and Sheriff's Office Major Joe Nugent.

Major Nugent called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., E.T.

Planner Richardson opened the meeting with prayer, and Acting Chairman Barnes led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Peters motioned to approve the following Consent Agenda items, and Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner McLemore requested removal of Pages 53 & 54 (Item #8 and a portion of Item #9) until the legislative session regarding the 2007-08 budget is complete. This being agreeable, the motion then passed unanimously (4-0). Upon inquiry by Commissioner McLemore regarding approval to receive sealed bids for the Telephone System for the Courthouse, Chief Administrator Butler stated he wants to take bids so he will have an idea of the cost for discussion during the upcoming budget session.

1. Minutes - May 22, 2007 - Regular Meeting
2. Bid Advertisement - Courthouse Telephone System
3. Change Order #1 - Honeyville Storm Shelter Project (Bid #0607-13 *
\$4,712.23 Increase * Extra Columns & Footings)

Change Order Request - South Gulf County Fire Department (Ferrara
Fire Apparatus * New Fire Truck through Florida

Sheriff's Association Bid No. 05_06_0823 * Increase of \$22,333.00 for miscellaneous equipment & supplies for the new truck)

4. Committee Advertisement (Advertise for 3 new members to serve on the Gulf County T.D.C.)

Committee Appointment (Aurora Myers and Alyson Gerlach to fill current vacancies on the Gulf County T.D.C.)
5. Direct Purchase Payment - Courthouse Roof Project (Bid #0607-07 * United Structures of America * #25287 * \$403,719.00 * to be paid from Account #26219-62100)
6. Inventory - Gulf County E.M.S. (Transfer #210-74 -1997 Ford Chassis with 1972 Golden Eagle Box to Wetappo Fire Department / Junk #210-23 - 1981 Ford Van and advertise to receive bids to sell)
 - White City Fire Department (Transfer #170-2 -1973 Ford Fire Truck to the Road Department)
7. Invoice - Ausley & McMullen, P.A. - Gulf Pines Hospital Litigation (#54770 * \$735.56 * to be paid from Account #21111_33000)
 - Cathey Construction & Development - Courthouse Roof Project (Bid #0607-07 * #6 * \$152,201.79 * to be paid from Account #26219-62100)
 - Cathey Construction & Development - Honeyville Storm Shelter Project (Bid #0607-13 * #2 * \$53,478.71 * to be paid from Account #27172-62000)
 - County Attorney Timothy McFarland (May, 2007 * \$9,393.50 * to be paid from Account #21314-31100)
 - Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell - General Employment Matters (File #G214-107990 * #713221 * \$971.32 * to be paid from Account #21111-31200)
 - Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell - Bolden vs. Peters (File #G214-109853 * #713226 * \$501.69 * to be paid from Account #21111-31200)

- St. Joe Hardware - Road Bond Paving Project (Bid #0607-11 *
#K76789 * \$18.80 / #275758 * \$132.40 / #275768 *
\$19.96 / #275828 * \$166.00 / #275954 * \$81.20 /
#276001 * \$112.80 / #2763690 * \$162.80 / #276401 *
\$23.50 / #276532 * \$169.20 / #277128 * \$1.99 /
#277149 * \$14.27 * to be paid from Account
#41441-63000)

8. ****DELETE**** *Job Notice - Post Notice for Maintenance Mechanic Step B Position
for Maintenance Department*

9. ****DELETE**** *Purchase Request - Maintenance Department (to purchase a 2007
Chevrolet 3/4-ton Utility Cargo Van through State
Contract * \$14,820.00)*

Purchase Request - South Gulf County Fire Department (to purchase
A 2007 Polaris Ranger 6 x 6 * GSA Contract
#GS-07F-0398M * \$14,000.00, plus shipping)

Purchase Request / Bid Advertisement (to purchase metal detectors
for Courthouse and advertise for bids for a Security
System)

10. Resolution / Grant Agreement - F.D.O.T. (S.C.O.P. Grant Award *
#42232615801 * C. R. 22A), as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE GULF COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD TO ENTER INTO A JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

WHEREAS, the Small County Outreach Program has been created
by Section 339.2818, Florida Statutes, to assist small county governments in
resurfacing or reconstruction of county roads or in construction of capacity or
safety improvements on county roads; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Transportation (F.D.O.T.) has
the authority, under Section 224.044, Florida Statutes, to enter into an
Agreement with Gulf County; and

WHEREAS, Gulf County has certified to F.D.O.T. that eligibility
requirements have been met of said Section 339.2818, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, F.D.O.T. is willing to provide Gulf County with financial

assistance under Financial Management Number 42232615801 for costs directly related to resurfacing and improvements on C.R. 22A from Canning Drive to Byrd Parker Drive, hereinafter referred to as the "PROJECT";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners that the Chairman of the Board is authorized to sign the Joint Participation Agreement with F.D.O.T. for resurfacing of C.R. 22A.

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED this 11th day of June, 2007.

(End of Resolution)

11. Road Closure - U.S. Highway 98 in the vicinity of Beacon Hill Park on September 22, 2007 for the Beach Blast Triathlon & Duathlon
12. S.H.I.P. - Rehabilitation Assistance (Howard Garland * \$5,500.00 / Mable Ward * \$5,500.00 / Mary Alice Williams * \$14,300.00 / Mary D. Williams * \$14,300.00 / Annette Woullard * \$18,700.00)
13. Special Projects Payments
14. Workshop - Weekend Park Cleanup (to be scheduled)

(End of Consent Agenda)

RESOLUTION - CITY OF PORT ST. JOE ANNEXATION

County Attorney McFarland discussed and read a proposed conflict resolution regarding annexations by the City of Port St. Joe. Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Traylor, and unanimous (4-0) vote, the Board adopted the following resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-15

WHEREAS, Gulf County, Florida is charged with protecting the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of Gulf County, Florida pursuant to the requirements of Florida Statute Chapter 125; and

WHEREAS, Gulf County, Florida and the City of Port St. Joe have developed substantial disagreement regarding the annexation of lands by the City of Port St. Joe within Gulf County, Florida and conflict has arisen therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida as follows:

1. The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners hereby initiates the conflict resolution procedure established by Florida Statute Chapter 164, prior to initiating court proceedings in an attempt to resolve the conflicts between the City and the County as required by such Act.
2. The issues at conflict between the City of Port St. Joe and Gulf County, Florida include the City's recent annexation adopted pursuant to City Ordinance 375, as well as the City's failure to comply with the provisions of that certain existing Annexation Agreement by and between the City of Port St. Joe and Gulf County, Florida. Further, the City and County have ongoing issue of dispute regarding the procedures for future annexation by the City of Port St. Joe within Gulf County, Florida.

DULY ADOPTED this 11th day of June, 2007.

(End of Resolution)

E.D.C. / ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - ENERGY INDUSTRY

Chief Administrator Butler discussed a memorandum from Gulf County E.D.C. regarding the gas, oil, and energy industry, requesting that the Board hold a workshop on this matter. Acting Chairman Barnes scheduled a workshop for Tuesday, June 19th at 3:00 p.m., E.T. to discuss this issue and Weekend Park Cleanup (approved in the Consent Agenda).

CHANGE ORDER / COURTHOUSE ROOF

Chief Administrator Butler discussed the need for a change order on the Courthouse Roof Project (Bid #0607-07) for structural work needed before installation of the Lantern Tower, at an increase on \$37,900.53. After discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned to execute a change order for this additional work. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

ADVERTISE FOR BIDS - AUDIT FIRM

Upon recommendation by Chief Administrator Butler, Commissioner McLemore motioned to advertise to receive sealed bids for a County Auditor. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

AWARD - FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Chief Administrator Butler reported that he received notification from F.A.C. that Chairman Bill Williams was selected to receive the 2007 F.A.C. Presidential Advocacy Award, which is a

great honor for Gulf County.

CHANGE ORDER - ROAD BOND PAVING

Chief Administrator Butler discussed the need for a change order to the Road Bond Paving Project (Bid #0607-11) at an increase of \$189,766.25 for additional work and changes made by the City of Wewahitchka. After discussion by members of the Board, Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve a change order for all changes except deletion of Fern Drive in the City of Wewahitchka. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

STRETCHERS - WEWAHITCHKA E.M.S.

Upon request by Gulf County E.M.S. Director McGuffin, Commissioner Peters motioned to allow Wewahitchka E.M.S. to purchase 2 stretchers from Stryker Medical Sales, in the amount of \$19,737.40, on a sole-source basis. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

DISPATCH / 911 SYSTEM

Chief Administrator Butler discussed the need to upgrade the 911 equipment, stating there is not enough room in the dispatch office. Upon his request, the Board agreed for Chief Administrator Butler, Major Nugent, Captain Plair, Emergency Management Director Nelson, and Emergency Management/911 Coordinator Guthrie to serve on a committee to develop a solution to remodel the dispatch office.

BEACH ACCESS

Major Nugent discussed problems regarding individuals accessing the beach from private property, stating that they have talked to D.E.P. regarding this matter.

AWARD BID #0607-29 / SALE OF MOWERS

Upon recommendation by Road Department Superintendent Knee, Commissioner Traylor motioned to award Bid #0607-29 for sale of old wing mowers for the Road Department to Edward Wood, Sr. (Wood's Fisheries), in the amount of \$1,000.00 (only bid). Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed 3-0, with Acting Chairman Barnes abstaining due to family involvement.

INVOICE - ROAD BOND PAVING PROJECT

Upon recommendation by Road Department Superintendent Knee, Commissioner McLemore motioned to pay G.A.C. invoice #4876-2, in the amount of \$293,850.31 (approved by Preble-

Rish, Inc.), for work done on the Road Bond Paving Project (Bid #0607-11). Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

WORKSHOP - LANDFILL

Upon request by Solid Waste Director Danford, the Board agreed to add Landfill to the meeting topics scheduled for June 19th, and to change the meeting time to 2:00 p.m., E.T.

AWARD BID #0607-28 / WELCOME CENTER FINANCING

Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Traylor, and unanimous (4-0) vote, the Board awarded the bid for financing of the Gulf County Welcome Center Renovation (in the amount of \$150,000.00) to Superior Bank at a rate of 4.3%, as recommended by T.D.C. Director Pickett.

T.D.C. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

T.D.C. Director Pickett presented a list showing the T.D.C. membership as required by the County's ordinance, and requested permission from the Board to have seat assignments (similar to districts) for the members. Commissioner Peters discussed that the Board appointed 2 members tonight to fill vacancies, and will be advertising for 3 members to fill positions for which term limits have been met. After further discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned to establish seat assignments as listed below for the T.D.C. members. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. BCC | 4. Bed Tax Collector | 7. Bed Tax Collector |
| 2. Port St. Joe | 5. Bed Tax Collector | 8. Non-Bed Tax Collector |
| 3. Wewahitchka | 6. Bed Tax Collector | 9. Non-Bed Tax Collector |

T.D.C. APPLICATIONS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Upon inquiry by T.D.C. Director Pickett, Commissioner Traylor motioned to continue receiving applications for T.D.C. members until August. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

AWARD BID #0607-27 / FIRE TRUCKS (W.C.F.D./B.F.D.)

Upon recommendation by Planner Richardson, Commissioner Peters motioned to award Bid #0607-27 for a pumper fire truck for White City Fire Department and Beaches Fire Department to Fire Fighting Innovations, in the total amount of \$485,870.00 for both trucks. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM / F.E.M.A. FLOOD ZONES

Planner Richardson reported that the eligible County zones received a Class 8 C.R.S. rating, and residents will receive a 10% discount on flood insurance. Commissioner McLemore requested that Deputy Administrator Lanier provide this information to the insurance companies. Chief Administrator Butler discussed that the County has previously had a Class 9 Rating, and Planner Richardson has worked hard to get it lowered.

D.C.A. / SCHOOL FACILITIES ELEMENT - COMP PLAN

Planner Richardson reported that D.C.A.'s comments have been received regarding the County's School Facilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan that was submitted.

PROPERTY TAXES / COUNTY BUDGET

Commissioner Traylor discussed that, according to the State, Gulf County's millage rate is too low and we are being penalized by the legislature by having to reduce next year's total budget by 9% from the 2006-07 budget. After discussion, Building Official Collinsworth reported that according to the I.S.O. rating and audit, the Building Department is under-manned and under-educated and the insurance will go up if the requirements they set are not met. He further stated that they included these items in their budget request for 2007-08, but now the legislature is requiring the reduction. Chief Administrator Butler discussed that the I.S.O. rating went from a 5 to an 8, and the ultimate cost will be to the citizens through their insurance policies (\$40.00-\$50.00 each). Michael Hammond discussed the percentage of the County's budget that is for unfunded mandates (schools, landfills, retirement rates, etc.). Chief Administrator Butler stated that the Governor's proposed budget was the highest in history (\$500,000,000.00 more than Governor Bush's proposed budget last year). Commissioner Traylor stated that the upcoming budget session is going to be very difficult for Gulf County. Commissioner Peters discussed the upcoming landfill workshop, stating the County needs to make the landfills self-supporting and he discussed the job notice removed from the Consent Agenda, stating the County needs to get through the budget process before anyone is hired.

S.H.I.P. PROGRAM

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Peters regarding a letter sent by the County Attorney to Gulf County C.D.C., County Attorney McFarland stated this is a standard letter that is submitted to the S.H.I.P. Administrator any time a foreclosure is filed on property that has received S.H.I.P. funding.

SEWER SYSTEM (WASTEWATER) / EASEMENT

Steve Johnson appeared before the Board to discuss that he owns 1.2 acres in Gulf County and requested permission to extend sewer lines from Bay County to Gulf County. He stated that the City of Mexico Beach has agreed to extend the service to him, based upon approval by Gulf County to use their right-of-way. Chief Administrator Butler stated this would be an easement granted from the County, under the condition that when Gulf County gets a sewer system, the property owner would connect to the Gulf County system. Upon inquiry by County Attorney

McFarland, Planner Richardson stated that if the Board approves this request, Mr. Johnson will proceed through the P.D.R.B. for development of the property. Upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, second by Commissioner Peters, and unanimous (4-0) vote, the Board approved this request.

There being no further business and upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, the meeting did then adjourn at 6:44 p.m., E.T.

**JERRY W. BARNES
ACTING CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**