

## **PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

**JUNE 9, 2009**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in regular session with the following members present: Chairman Nathan Peters, Jr., Vice Chairman Carmen L. McLemore and Commissioners Billy E. Traylor, Bill Williams, and Warren Yeager.

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy McFarland, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, E-911 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Human Resource Director Denise Manuel, Planner David Richardson, Public Works Director Gerald Shearer, and Sheriff Joe Nugent.

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

Planner Richardson opened the meeting with prayer, and Commissioner Traylor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve the following Consent Agenda items. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously as follows:

1. Minutes May 12, 2009 Regular Meeting
  - May 20, 2009 Special Meeting
  - May 26, 2009 Special Meeting
  - May 26, 2009 Regular Meeting
2. Supplemental Agreement St. Joseph Peninsula Beach Restoration Project  
(Post Construction Physical Monitoring)
3. Invoices County Attorney Timothy J. McFarland (May, 2009 \* \$9,827.00 \* to be paid from Account #21314-31100)
  - Milliman Professional Services (Invoice #082-GCF03:041 \* \$4,000.00 \* to be paid from Account #21111-31000)
  - Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell General Employment Matters (Invoice #737655 \* \$80.00 \* to be paid from Account #21111-31200)

- Tax Collector Advertising Cost for Unsold County Certificates

(\$18,953.71 \* to be paid from Account #21111-49200)

4. S.H.I.P. Rehabilitation Assistance (David Barnes/\$5,500.00)

(End)

**STUMPHOLE PROJECT**

Grant Writer Kopinsky requested permission for the Chairman to submit a letter to FL Department of Transportation requesting a 60 day extension on the Stumphole project. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION #2009-17 F.D.O.T.**

Grant Writer Kopinsky requested that the Board approve a Resolution allowing the Chairman to execute a Joint Participation Agreement with Florida Department of Transportation for the \$170,000.00 stimulus funds for CR 30-A. Commissioner Yeager motioned to adopt the Resolution. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-17**

**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 Local Agency Program has been established in conjunction with Section 334.044(7), Section 339.05, and Section 339.12, 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 (FDOT) has the authority under Section 334.044(7), Florida Statutes, to enter into an Agreement with Gulf County; and

**WHEREAS**, Gulf County has certified to FDOT that they will meet the requirements of said Section 339.05 and Section 339.12, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, FDOT is willing to provide Gulf County with federal financial assistance under Financial Management Number 426687-1-58-01 for costs directly related to **widening and resurfacing a portion of C.R. 30A**, hereinafter referred to as the **“PROJECT”**; and

**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 FDOT for the widening and resurfacing of C.R. 30A.

**THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED THIS 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2009.**

(End)

**AWARD BID #0809-19 / HONEYVILLE PARK FENCING**

Upon recommendation by Grant Writer Kopinsky, Commissioner McLemore motioned to award Bid #0809-19 for the Honeyville Park fencing project to A & R Fencing (low bidder), in the amount of \$20,000.50. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Upon recommendation by Grant Writer Kopinsky, Commissioner McLemore motioned for the Chairman to execute the Notice of Award, Agreement, and Notice to Proceed for the Honeyville Park fencing project. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**AWARD BID #0809-21 / RE-ROOFING OLD GULF COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

Upon recommendation by Grant Writer Kopinsky, Commissioner Traylor motioned to award Bid #0809-21 for the re-roofing of the Old Gulf County Courthouse to Fisher Construction (low bidder), in the amount of \$31,959.00. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Upon recommendation by Grant Writer Kopinsky, Commissioner Traylor motioned for the Chairman to execute the Notice of Award, Agreement, and Notice to Proceed for the re-roofing of the Old Courthouse project. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Upon inquiry by Chairman Peters, Building Official Collinsworth discussed that business has picked up somewhat, and he has been hearing a lot of talk in the Cape San Blas area.

**FIVE POINTS LANDFILL PERMIT**

Solid Waste Director Danford discussed that he received the permit for Five Points Landfill, stating that there is a lot of work to be done.

**HURRICANE RESURGENCE TABLETOP EXERCISE**

E-911 Coordinator Guthrie appeared before the Board and requested support for the Hurricane Resurgence Tabletop Exercise which is being held on Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m., E.T. in the E.O.C. Building. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**GRANT ACCEPTANCE / EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL**

Sheriff Nugent appeared before the Board and requested Chairman Peters sign the acceptance letter for the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant (American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act of 2009).

### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WATER SUPPLY PLAN**

Planner Richardson appeared before the Board and discussed that he has been notified by DCA that the water supply plan in the Comprehensive Plan is in compliance, stating that in 21 days it will be final.

### **BID #0809-18 THREE (3) BARGES RIVER SAND PROJECT**

Upon recommendation by Chief Administrator Butler, Commissioner Traylor motioned to reject the bids received for bid #0809-18, and re-advertise to receive sealed bids for the three shallow barges (to be reimbursed by N.W.F.W.M.D.). Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **GULF COUNTY C.D.C. REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE**

Chief Administrator Butler discussed a letter from C.D.C. regarding \$198,558.01 available in the S.H.I.P. program fund, stating they are requesting the Board allow these funds to be used for Rehabilitation Assistance. Commissioner Traylor motioned to approve this request. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **AWARD BID #0809-20 / HIGHLAND VIEW FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Upon recommendation by Highland View Fire Department Committee, Chief Administrator Butler discussed they are recommending Bid #0809-20 be awarded to Cathey Construction & Development for design/build of Highland View Fire Department. Commissioner Williams motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **COMMUNICATION SERVICE TAX**

Chief Administrator Butler discussed the Communication Service Tax (CST). Chairman Peters discussed the amount of funds generated from the CST, stating it is currently .54% and could be increased to 1.87%. Chairman Peters passed the Chair to Commissioner McLemore and motioned to start the process for the Communication Service Tax. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Chairman McLemore returned the Chair to Commissioner Peters.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2009-18 EARNED INTEREST**

County Attorney McFarland discussed a change in the law that was signed by the Governor, and effective July 1, 2009, stating that in the past the Clerk has taken the revenue from interest earned on Board investments to offset the cost in operating the Clerk's Office. On behalf of Clerk Norris, County Attorney McFarland recommended that the Board adopt a Resolution to allow her to continue to use these funds. Commissioner Yeager motioned to adopt this Resolution. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Williams commended Clerk Norris for doing a great job in running the Clerk's Office.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2009-18**

**WHEREAS**, the Government has signed into law CS/SB1718 as amended with an effective date of July 1, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, this law amends Section 28.33 F.S. by deleting the provision that allows the Clerk to keep and retain the interest earned from the investment of County funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the interest earned from the investment of County funds is now deemed to be income of the County which is to be expended as receipts of the County as approved by the Board of County Commissioners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Clerk of Court has constructed the budget for the operation of the office of the Clerk of Court with the assumption that these revenues would remain available for use by the Clerk of Court.

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

1. The Board of County Commissioners hereby determines that it is in the best interest of Gulf County, Florida and the Clerk of Court for Gulf County, Florida that the funds previously allocated to the County budget amendment shall expenditures as from the Board. for the Clerk of Court pursuant to F.S. 28.33 prior to its remain available for the use by the Clerk of Court for her the Clerk shall deem necessary until further direction
2. As has been the prudent financial practice of the Clerk of Court of Gulf County for many years, any interest income earned from the investment of County funds not required for use by the Clerk pursuant to this Resolution shall be relinquished to the Board of County Commissioners for use by the County Commissioners as they deem appropriate.

Effective this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2009.

(End)

**PROPOSED GAS TAX REASSESSMENT SIX-CENT GASOLINE AND FUEL TAX**

County Attorney McFarland discussed that he has advertised for the original proposed \$.06 gas tax that the Cities and Counties collect to use and pay the 2006 Revenue Bond, stating that he will present this at the next Regular Board meeting.

**PROPOSED ADDITIONAL FIVE-CENT LOCAL OPTION GAS TAX**

County Attorney McFarland discussed the additional proposed five cent gas tax has been

submitted for advertisement, stating that he will present at the next Regular Board meeting.

### **PROPOSED SMALL COUNTY SURTAX**

County Attorney McFarland discussed that the proposed Small County Surtax has been submitted for advertisement, stating that he will present this at the first regular meeting in August.

### **FRANCHISE FEES**

County Attorney McFarland discussed that he has been working with Nabors, Giblin and Nickerson, stating that there is not enough time left before the budget cycle is over, but that he will continue to work on the Franchise Fees.

### **COMMUNICATION SERVICE TAX**

County Attorney McFarland discussed that he is in the process of advertising for the Communication Service Tax, stating that there will still be revenue shortfalls that the Board will need to review.

### **LANDFILL FEES**

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Yeager, Solid Waste Director Danford discussed that he should have the landfill fees complete by the next board meeting.

### **PROPERTY APPRAISER**

Chairman Peters discussed that Property Appraiser Colbert has projected a 20% reduction in assessed property values, and that he should be able to report back to the Board the first week of July.

### **TEMPORARY BRIDGE SIMMONS BAYOU**

Commissioner Yeager discussed a letter drafted to D.O.T. requesting a temporary bridge be placed in the Simmons Bayou area while they are repairing the current bridge because of the businesses.

### **BIO MASS PLANT**

Commissioner Traylor discussed the new Bio Mass plant which is coming to Gulf County, stating that there was a negative article published in The Star paper last week. He stated that the Board is supporting the new plant, as it will create jobs for this County. Commissioner Yeager discussed that the Board needs to make sure the correct information is given out.

### **WHITE CITY PARK**

Commissioner Williams thanked Grant Writer Kopinsky and Building Official Collinsworth for their hard work on the White City boat ramp project, stating that the project is now complete. He requested that Chairman Peters schedule a ceremony for the Board to thank Florida Fish & Wildlife for the grant assistance.

### **WELLNESS CENTER EMPLOYEES**

Commissioner Williams discussed that there is currently 47 employees and 25 family members using the Wellness Center at this time. Chairman Peters requested that Human

Resource Director Manuel be provided this information.

**WHITE CITY PARK**

Larry Allison, of White City, appeared before the Board and thanked the Board for the use of the White City Park for the Memorial Day Commerative Service. He also thanked Grant Writer Kopinsky and Building Official Collinsworth for all their hard work in the Park. Mr. Allison requested permission to use the park to show Christian movies, and Chairman Peters instructed Mr. Allison to communicate with Commissioner Williams and he will report back to the Board.

Building Official Collinsworth thanked the Public Works Department for all their hard work at the White City Park.

**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICE**

Chairman Peters requested that Chief Administrator Butler thank Maintenance Superintendent Mork for the repairs to the ceiling at the Supervisor of Elections Office.

**BIO MASS PLANT**

Doug Kent, Gulf County Health Department Administrator, appeared before the Board and discussed that the new Bio Mass Plant which is coming to Gulf County is new technology, and is one of the greatest on the market. He discussed that one of these plants sits on the campus at the University of South Carolina, stating that technology is top of the line. Commissioner Williams discussed that 8% of the Nations power derive from these Bio Mass Plants.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION HEALTH FAIR**

Chairman Peters discussed that the C.D.C. held activities for the children at the Washington Recreational Center, stating that approximately 65 children attended. He discussed that they also performed blood pressure checks on the children, and that most of the children had high blood pressure. Doug Kent, Gulf County Health Department Administrator discussed that he was notified of the high blood pressure in the children.

There being no further discussion, and upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, the meeting did then adjourn at 6:42 p.m., E.T.

**NATHAN PETERS, JR.  
CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

**REBECCA L. NORRIS  
CLERK**