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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOVEMBER 1, 2004
WORKSHOP – FLORIDA FISH & WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION (BOAT RAMPS) - 8:30 A.M.
REGULAR MEETING 9:30 A.M.**

WORKSHOP

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners met November 1, 2004 to conduct a workshop with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation regarding maintenance for Little Santa Fe Lake and Sampson Lake boat ramps. Attending the workshop were: Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Johnson, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Cooper, Clerk Norman, Marlene Stafford, Jerome Kelley, Ron Lilly and Jim Palmer.

Chairman Johnson called the workshop to order at 8:53 a.m.

Mr. Jim Palmer with Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation addressed the Commission. The Conservation is asking the Commission to pick up the maintenance efforts that they have been doing with Fish & Wildlife crew. The reason they are switching over is that they were with the Fisheries Division and now they are with the Law Enforcement Division. The Law Enforcement Division has a different way of organizing what they do. They would rather farm out the work rather than have their crew do it. Bradford County has expressed an interest in picking up the maintenance.

Commissioner Thomas asked if the County would be reimbursed for the associated costs and permitting fees? Mr. Palmer indicated in the positive. It is his understanding that Mr. Kelley is going to prepare a plan and a cost estimate, which should be submitted to Tallahassee. As long as the costs are not exorbitant they would be 100% reimbursed. The permitting fees would be the responsibility of the County.

Mr. Kelley said that there are only two boat ramps currently being addressed; one on Santa Fe Lake and the one on the west side of Sampson Lake. This is a new program where the County will agree to take over the maintenance of these two ramps. The County has already been paying some of the costs in terms of picking up trash and some minor grading. Major work such as building a dock or dredging the canal, is not considered maintenance and would come under the boating improvement program, which the County has been part of for years. Mr. Waldron is getting together a cost for what the County has been spending. This being a new program, he does not think a procedure for reimbursement requests has been established.

Commissioner Cooper inquired about the other boat ramps in the County. Mr. Palmer said if there are funds available, they could do more than just the two ramps. Unfortunately, there is only so much funding and there are approximately 200 boat ramps within the State of Florida.

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There was brief discussion concerning liability.

Commissioner Cooper asked if any maintenance is being performed on these two ramps. Mr. Palmer said that normally when they enter into an agreement with the County, the County does the law enforcement and the traffic control; they perform the maintenance to the ramp itself.

Mr. Kelley said that the County is currently doing occasional trash pick-up and minor grading and replacing the light, which is a constant problem at Lake Sampson.

Commissioner Cooper said that the reality is that the County is doing it any way, but there may now be a source for reimbursement. Mr. Kelley said that is correct, but he wanted the Commission to be clear on what would be covered under this program.

There was additional discussion regarding liability and ownership.

Commissioner Cooper said that he feels more information is needed. He would like to include all the boat ramps, if possible. He would also like to know what boat ramps the County actually owns and he would like some cost estimates from Mr. Waldron.

At the request of Commissioner Thomas, Mr. Palmer explained the funding process.

Chairman Johnson asked Mr. Kelley to continue working on additional data to bring back to the Commission.

Mr. Palmer said that he would research the current agreements with the County and provide copies.

There being no further business, the workshop adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners met November 1, 2004 to conduct their regular scheduled meeting. Attending were: Commissioner Mann, Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Johnson, Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Cooper, Clerk Norman, Marlene Stafford, Lisa Hall, John Broling, Mark Crawford, Nelson Green, Ron Lilly, Angela Macey, Donny Wise, Sheriff Milner and Wilson Whidden.

(A copy of all documentation presented at this meeting is located in Supplement File No. 11-01-04.)

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Hersey gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Paul Still commented on the following:

--Three Pipes at Sampson Lake has a design or manufacturer problem causing it to block 24" of the box culvert, significantly reducing the amount of water that is able to flow under the CR225 bridge. There has also been more damage done to the railroad culverts, also reducing the flow leaving the lake.

Urged the Commission to conduct a workshop with Suwannee River Water Management District, DEP and the County Engineer to develop a system to avoid future flooding of Lakes Sampson and Crosby.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. APPROVE MINUTES FROM BUDGET WORKSHOP OF AUGUST 9, 2004**
- B. APPROVE MINUTES FROM BUDGET WORKSHOP OF AUGUST 19, 2004**
- C. APPROVE PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 9 THROUGH OCTOBER 15 AS THE BHS CLASS OF 1937 APPRECIATION WEEK**
- D. APPROVE INVOICE FOR PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,250.00 FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SMALL COUNTY COALITION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005.**

There being no items removed, **Comm. Thomas MOVED** to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety. **Comm. Mann SECONDED** and the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

DISCUSS AND REVIEW SITE PLAN FOR BECK CHRYSLER OF STARKE—WILSON

WHIDDEN: Mr. Whidden presented the site plan for approval. The site plan was prepared by Mr. Kelley. Permits have been obtained from Suwannee River Water Management; DOT permits are pending. The site plan meets all County specifications. The building is approximately 14,400 square feet.

Comm. Thomas MOVED to approve the site plan for Beck Chrysler of Starke. **Comm. Cooper SECONDED** the motion.

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Chairman Johnson said that at some point in time, the road through Lincoln City that goes from HWY 301 to SR16 needs to be paved. This will help with access to the growth at the south end of the County.

There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

DISCUSSION CONCERNING RAILROAD CROSSING MAINTENANCE COSTS—TERRY BROWN: Mr. Broling said that during his research, his initial conclusion was that the County does not have a legal means to avoid paying the past due bill. The reason the bill is past due is that CSX failed to bill the County for five consecutive years. After removing two crossings that were located in the City of Hampton, there is an unpaid balance due of approximately \$35,000.00. CSX has agreed to accept either a \$27,127.00 lump sum payment, which is 6% less than the original bill; or \$7,392.80 per year for five years, which is the total amount of the unpaid balance, without interest.

If the Commission wishes him to do so, he will extend a counter-offer to CSX.

Commissioner Mann asked if the funds were in the current budget. Clerk Norman said that he believes \$35,000.00 was budgeted.

Commissioner Cooper said that he would like to negotiate a little lower. Also, for budget purposes, he would like a clause inserted into the contract that states if they fail to bill by a time certain, the County is not obligated to pay.

Mr. Broling said that he would do so. He will also contact some other counties that have been affected, which includes most of north Florida, and see if they can reach some accord as a group as opposed to one-on-one.

APPROVE FINAL PAY REQUEST FOR THE RESURFACING OF CR216 & CR200B FOR ANDERSON COLUMBIA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$474,653.50—COMM. COOPER:

Commissioner Cooper presented the pay request for approval. Mr. Kelley has approved and signed the request. Although Mr. Waldron has not signed the request, he agrees that it is appropriate to approve it. The amount is within the SCRAP funds allocated for the project.

Comm. Cooper MOVED to authorize the payment to Anderson Columbia of \$474,653.50.
Comm. Hersey SECONDED the motion.

Commissioner Thomas asked if the warranty starts one year from the date on the pay request. Commissioner Cooper indicated in the positive.

There being no further discussion, the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

APPROVAL FOR TDC TO IMPLEMENT A NEEDS/SITE SURVEY FOR THE YMCA/CONFERENCE CENTER AT A COST OF \$11,000.00—COMM. THOMAS/RON

LILLY: Mr. Lilly said that at the last TDC meeting, they were presented with a proposal for a contract from Triangle2, a company that performs site evaluations for the YMCA across the USA. They are also

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interested in doing a site survey for a conference center. The YMCA side of the proposal is lower than the convention center side. This is because they feel they need to go outside the area to gather data.

The TDC, after much discussion, felt that it was best to spend \$11,000.00 versus building a “white elephant” type building. This will be money well spent to find out whether or not people will come to the area to utilize the facility versus just having a building that the YMCA would utilize.

The TDC has been putting together a list of questions they would like to see included on the survey. Mr. Lilly asked the Commission to submit any questions they may have to him and he will see that they are included on the survey.

Triangle2 has made the billing to be \$11,000.00 for the total project. This is split into two payments of \$5,500.00. The first payment due at the time of the execution of a contract, and the other upon completion of the survey, which should be within four to six weeks.

On behalf of the TDC, Mr. Lilly requested that the Commission approve the \$11,000.00 expenditure and to authorize the Clerk to issue a check for at least the initial \$5,500.00, with the stipulation that when the survey is complete, that the other \$5,500.00 be released.

Chairman Johnson said that he requested that the County Attorney to research the legalities of spending TDC funds for this purpose and asked that he report his findings.

Mr. Broling said that there is nothing in the statute that specifically prohibits feasibility studies being funded out of TDC funds. There are no negative histories from any of the courts or from the Attorney General’s Office.

Comm. Thomas MOVED to approve the \$11,000.00 request to implement the site survey for a YMCA/Conference Center, to be paid out of TDC funds. **Comm. Cooper SECONDED** and the **MOTION CARRIED 4-1**, with Chairman Johnson dissenting.

BID RECOMMENDATION FOR CDBG—ANGELA MACEY: Ms. Macey presented results from the October 12 bid opening for housing rehab. She requested that the Board award the bids as follows:

Unit No. 01-19	Award Base Bid to: Chad Willhite, Inc.,	\$28,690
Unit No. 01-20	Award Base Bid to: Chad Willhite, Inc.,	\$35,280
Unit No. 01-21	Award Base Bid to: S&D Specialties, Inc.	\$34,200
Unit No. 01-22	Award Base Bid to: Chad Willhite, Inc.	\$30,550

Comm. Thomas MOVED to award the bids as recommended. **Comm. Mann SECONDED** and the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0**.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: **Comm. Hersey MOVED** to approve payment of the bills as reviewed. **Comm. Thomas SECONDED** and the **MOTION CARRIED 5-0**.

PERSONNEL MATTERS: None.

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COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS: Mr. Broling reported the following:

--He has provided to the Clerk the original resolution regarding the acquisition of land for the new library, together with the warranty deeds. This should be handled at the first meeting in December.

--He has almost completed the ordinance regarding the distance between bars and churches and asked if the Commission is ready for the advertisement.

Commissioner Cooper said that he would like to review it before it is advertised. Mr. Broling said that he would provide copies to the Board this week.

--Updated the Board on the retention of LaRue Williams, the attorney out of Daytona for any litigation regarding the courthouse renovation/construction project.

CLERK REPORTS: Clerk Norman reported the following:

--On behalf of Ms. Pearson, he presented the Board with a check in the amount of \$5,708.82, representing returned fees from the 2003-2004 budget.

--Announced that he will be returning a check to the Board in the amount of \$125,540.69. In preparation for the implementation of Article V, last year he requested a \$50,000.00 increase in his budget. Those funds were to be used, if needed, until fees could be collected, and he told the Commission he would return the funds if they were not used. The \$50,000.00 is included in the \$125,540.69. Some of this money would have ordinarily gone straight to the General Fund as it was collected, however, the manner in which the funds are disbursed has changed.

There have been some substantial increases in some fees by the legislature. Although he has only been working under Article V for about four months, he feels that Bradford County is going to be able to support his office, as well as be able to give revenue back to the Board at the end of the year. This speaks well of the Board for its prudence, as well as his office.

Clerk Norman expressed his appreciation to his staff for their hard work during the transition to Article V, and thanked the Board for working with him during the process.

--Expressed his appreciation to Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Mann for their tenure on the Board and wished them both the best.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner Cooper commented on the following:

--Announced the new commissioners workshop for November 18 and 19 given by the Small County Coalition. This workshop is not just for new commissioners, but is for all commissioners. While the hurricanes are still fresh on everyone's minds, they have secured the State EOC for the afternoon

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session. This will be a great opportunity to see how the state operates and how Bradford County can better plug in to that system.

--Said that it has been a pleasure serving with Chairman Johnson and thanked him for his services to Bradford County.

Commissioner Hersey commented on the following:

--The debris removal is going well. The contract is in place and the crew is doing a good job. He asked everyone to be patient as they make their way through the County.

--Expressed his appreciation to Chairman Johnson for his service to Bradford County.

Commissioner Thomas commented on the following:

--Thanked Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Mann for their service on the Board and wished the well.

Commissioner Mann commented on the following:

--Thanked the citizens of Bradford County for giving him the opportunity to serve them for the past four years, and thanked all of the Board members. He has learned a lot in the last four year about government and challenged the remaining Commissioners to continue the good work, watch the budget and continue to make improvements to the County.

Chairman Johnson commented on the following:

--He has enjoyed his years of service. Thanked the citizens for allowing him to serve and thanked the Commission for electing him three times to serve as Chairman.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

DOYLE THOMAS, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____
RAY NORMAN, CLERK TO THE BOARD

These minutes typed by:

Marlene K. Stafford, Deputy Clerk