

(12-17-04)

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
WORKSHOP/RETREAT
DECEMBER 17, 2004 9:00 A.M.**

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners met December 17, 2004 at the Hampton Bed and Breakfast to conduct a workshop/retreat. The purpose of the retreat was to discuss numerous issues concerning the County and for the benefit of newly elected commissioners. Attending the retreat were: Commissioner Lewis, Commissioner Hersey, Chairman Thomas, Commissioner Cooper, Commissioner Chandler, Clerk Norman, Marlene Stafford, Lisa Hall, Mark Crawford, Paul Still and Dan Hildebran.

Chairman Thomas called the retreat to order at 9:10 a.m. Commissioner Cooper opened the retreat with prayer.

Each Commissioner stated the items that they would like to discuss. The following is a list of those items: County Manager, Road Paving, Library, Road Maintenance and Drainage, Economic Development, Housing Development, Liaison Commissioner/Chairmanship Responsibilities, Department Heads, 911 Mapping, EOC Director, Random Drug Testing, Increasing the Road Department Budget, Purchase of Computer Program for Road Department, Clean-Up Image of County Vehicles.

--The first area discussed was the construction of the new library. For the benefit of the newly elected commissioners, Commissioner Cooper provided a synopsis of what has transpired thus far.

This spurred discussion which, was not limited to but included the need for a new library, the proposed site and site alternatives, funding sources and financing, operating costs, probability of grant funding, small satellite libraries, staffing, flooding problem on Pratt Street and the bookmobile.

--The Road Department was the next area addressed. Discussion was not limited to but included how general road maintenance has suffered since the County has been doing road construction, the County doing road construction versus contracting it out, a standing asphaltic concrete contract for smaller projects, the road paving plan and priority list, a computer program to help track road maintenance, an organized plan for road maintenance and the commissioners working with the plan, drainage problems, ops employees, equipment being rented for road construction and the Meng Dairy Road paving project.

Based on the discussion, there was consensus for the following:

1. To get out of road construction. The Road Department can do sub-work, clearing the right-of-ways and rough grade work; contract out the rock, cement and asphalt work.
2. Not to hire the two OPS employees that were advertised.
3. Return the front-end loader that was rented for road construction.
4. Let a bid for the remainder of the Meng Dairy Road construction project.

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--The next area of discussion was a County Manager. The discussion was not limited to but included revising the job description, what powers and authorities the manager will or will not have, how personnel matters should be handled, revisiting the County's Personnel Policies and Procedures, and the benefits of having a County Manager.

Based on the discussion, Commissioner Cooper said that he would take the existing job description and do some edits and get a copy to each Commissioner. If the Board feels another workshop is needed to review it then a workshop will be scheduled; if it meets everyone's approval, then it can be placed on the December 3 agenda.

--Other items discussed included the liaison commissioner concept, the power and authority of the County Commission Chairman, city residents using solid waste sites, recycling of cell phones, voter registration system changes, a centralized 911 mapping system separate from EMS and an Emergency Management Director.

There being no further discussion the workshop/retreat adjourned at 12:37 p.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