

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
AND WORKSHOP
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2007
9:30 A.M.**

REGULAR MEETING

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in regular session on Monday, October 1, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in the County Commissioners' Meeting Room, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

Present were: Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Lewis, Commissioner Cooper and Commissioner Chandler.

Also present were: Jim Crawford, County Manager; Sandra Harrell, Administrative Assistant; Alex Hinely, County Planner; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Lieut. Gail Russell; Nora Thompson, Zoning Director; Terry Brown, County Attorney; Angela Macey, Community Development Director; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Nelson Green, Emergency Services Director; Sheriff Milner; Gordon Smith, Chief of Police; Mark Crawford, Press; and Terry Vaughan, Supervisor of Elections.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sheriff Milner offered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL MONITORING OF HAZARDOUS WASTE GENERATORS \$7,882**
- B. MOTOROLA PROPOSAL – IGCF -- \$22,204.17 (CONSOLIDATION)**
- C. VISIONAIR QUOTE – IGCF -- \$48,300 (JAIL SOFTWARE UPGRADE)**
- D. APPLICATION TO RENEW STORAGE TANK THIRD PARTY INSURANCE**
- E. S.H.I.P. LOANS**

On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey, the Board unanimously approved the [Consent Agenda](#) in its entirety.

OWNER TURNOVER OF NEW LIBRARY – TERRY VAUGHAN, LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR AND JOE NEALON, ALLSTATE CONSTRUCTION:

Mr. Vaughan expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as Chairman of the Library Advisory Board. The new library will be a source of pride for Bradford County for many years to come. Choosing Allstate Construction was the right decision and they have been excellent to work with.

Mr. Vaughan then introduced Mr. Joe Nealon, Project Manager for Allstate Construction and Mr. Bill Weldon, Owner of Allstate Construction.

Mr. Nealon announced that they are turning the keys over to Ms. Henriksen. The project is complete and has come in under the GMP. There are some funds that will revert back to the County on some work that has been deferred.

Mr. Weldon echoed Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Nealon. They are delighted to turn over the keys for this exciting project. The citizens of Bradford County will be able to use this building for years to come. He thanked the Commission for allowing them to be part of the team.

Mr. Spyros Drivas expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to design the project. Not only did everyone put their brains into the project, they put their souls into the project. It is very important to have a connection between the designer and the contractor.

Mr. Vaughan announced that invitations for the grand opening should be going out in the mail any day now. It is scheduled for Friday, October 26 at 2:30 p.m. He expressed his appreciation to the Commission for their support.

Mr. Crawford said that he has the Certificate of Substantial Completion that he will sign on behalf of the Commission. As of September 5, the punch list is complete.

UNION CONTRACT EMS LOCAL #4315—TERRY BROWN:

Mr. Brown presented the proposed contract. The contract has been reviewed and approved by Mr. Green in terms of his knowledge of the department. The Union has reviewed and ratified the proposed contract. The final decision rests with the Commission.

Commissioner Chandler asked how the proposed contract would affect the EMS budget.

Mr. Green said that it means about \$60,000.00 in raw numbers for the current year, with a net of about \$30,000.00, due to an anticipated drop in overtime upon approval of the contract. He feels his budget can handle the increase.

Mr. Brown said that it is a two-year contract and the biggest hit to the budget will be this year as opposed to next year.

Commissioner Cooper said that he has a problem with the 10% increase to the base pay when the rest of the County employees received a 3%.

(10-01-07 Regular Meeting and Workshop)

Mr. Crawford said that is correct. However, there was no clause in the previous contract for a raise. Therefore, for the last couple of years when County employees received a 3% raise, Union employees did not.

Commissioner Cooper said that he appreciates negotiation with the Union. However, he wants Union employees to be treated exactly the same as other County employees.

Mr. Crawford said that the proposed contract that the Union employees will receive the same base increase as other County employees.

Mr. Green said that there are no negotiating salaries within the proposed contract for the next two years.

Commissioner Cooper said that should be a permanent arrangement. He appreciates that they are under paid, but so are the rest of the employees.

Mr. Brown said that theoretically the Union employees are not receiving a direct 10% raise. The contract increases the starting salary at each tier of the salary structure.

Mr. Crawford said that the effective date of the contract would be October 1, 2007, if approved by the Commission.

There was additional discussion concerning the negotiation of raises.

On Motion of Commissioner cooper, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey, the Board unanimously approved the [Union Contract with Local #4315](#) as presented.

CITY OF STARKE AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF POLICE AND FIRE DISPATCH SERVICES—LIEUT. GAIL RUSSELL:

Lieut. Russell advised that the Starke City Commission has approved the agreement. He requested the Commission's approval so they can move ahead with some purchases. The plan is to get Starke's dispatchers into the County's center the first week in November to get them trained and ready for January 1, 2008.

Sheriff Milner expressed his appreciation to Lieut. Russell, Chief Smith, the County Commission, Pete Schlosser, Chris Thurow and Nelson Green for working together to accomplish what has been his goal for the last 15 years.

Chief Smith echoed the Sheriff's sentiments. This project has been a long time coming.

Mr. Brown advised that once the Commission approves the Memorandum of Understanding, it would allow both agencies to move forward. However, it will be better formalized in the way of an interlocal agreement.

On Motion of Commissioner Cooper, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved the [Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding](#) as presented.

(10-01-07 Regular Meeting and Workshop)

REQUEST APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CITY OF STARKE, BCSO, AND BOCC – LIEUT. GAIL RUSSELL:

Chairman Lewis said that this item was taken care of with the previous motion.

SANTA FE TRACE MINOR SUBDIVISION APPROVAL – NORA THOMPSON:

Ms. Thompson said all parties have approved the minor subdivision.

On Motion of Commissioner Chandler, Seconded by Commissioner Cooper, the Board unanimously approved the subdivision as presented.

KINGSLEY OAKS I MINOR SUBDIVISION APPROVAL – NORA THOMPSON:

As the plat was being reviewed, there was discussion regarding the fact that county maintained dirt roads bound the subdivision on two sides.

Commissioner Cooper said that he wants the record to reflect that although the County allows minor subdivisions to be built on dirt roads, there should be no expectation on the part of the property owners for the County to pave the roads.

On Motion of Commissioner Cooper, Seconded by Commissioner Chandler, the Board unanimously approved Kingsley Oaks I Minor Subdivision; it meets County criteria.

Mr. Brown asked if the Commission wants to continue to allow minor subdivisions to have dirt roads.

Commissioner Cooper said that a minor subdivision is defined as nine lots or less. That is a lot of lots to be putting on a dirt road. Either the number of lots needs to be reduced, or there should be a requirement to pave or upgrade the road.

This spurred discussion.

There was a consensus to move forward with a text amendment leaving a minor subdivision at 9 lots, but requiring the roads to be paved.

RESOLUTION OUTLINING COUNTY PROPERTY FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING – ALEX HINELY:

Mr. Hinely read the title into the record:

“A RESOLUTION OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA APPROVING AN INVENTORY LIST OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY THAT IS APPROPRIATE FOR USE AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING PURSUANT TO SECTION 166.0451, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.”

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Mr. Hinely pointed out that the inventory list on page two states no County owned property is appropriate for use as affordable housing. The list was approved in an earlier Commission meeting.

On Motion of Commissioner Thomas, Seconded by Commissioner Hersey, the Board unanimously adopted the resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 07-29.](#))

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS – COMMISSIONER COOPER:

On Motion of Commissioner Cooper, Seconded by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved payment of the bills. (A list of the bills is on file in the Finance Department of the Office of the Clerk.)

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS – TERRY BROWN: None.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS – JIM CRAWFORD:

Mr. Crawford announced his [intent to retire](#), effective December 1, 2007. He will submit his letter of resignation in the near future. This is not a firm date. Should circumstances arise that require him to stay longer, he would be glad to do so. Although he is retiring from full-time, he would be glad to assist with special projects, should the need arise.

Mr. Crawford requested permission to advertise for a new county manager from within the County, in accordance with Bradford County Personnel Policies. If no applicant from within the County is accepted, then it will be advertised to the public.

Chairman Lewis expressed his appreciation to Mr. Crawford for a job well done. He would like to get someone on board for 30 days before Mr. Crawford leaves.

Commissioner Cooper said that he likes the idea of the in-house advertisement for two weeks. Then those applications are to be brought to the Commission for consideration. If no one is selected, then go to public advertisement.

There was a consensus to move forward with the advertisement as recommended.

Mr. Crawford said that on behalf of the Commission, he would move forward with the in-house advertisement.

Commissioner Hersey recommended having a workshop with Mr. Crawford and the new hire to make sure they have knowledge of on-going projects and so forth.

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CLERK REPORTS – RAY NORMAN: None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Chandler commented on the following:

--Asked Mr. Crawford to confirm the targeted completion date on Luke and Marklee Starling Roads.

Mr. Crawford said that it is past due. He will meet with Ellington again and demand that they stay on the road until it is completed. In the future, the Board needs to develop criteria of accepting contracts and not let price be the driving force. In other words, performance, scheduling, etc, things of that nature should enter into the selection process.

He will try to get a commitment on a completion date.

Commissioner Cooper commented on the following:

--Still need to keep an eye on the property tax issue. The court in Tallahassee has thrown the ballot language off the ballot. The governor and the senate president have appealed. This weeks' question is whether or not they try to revise the ballot in the upcoming special session. As of right now, there is no constitutional amendment to be voted on in January, but is subject to change.

--The Legislative Delegation meeting is October 16 at 2:00 p.m. in the County Commission Meeting Room.

Commissioner Hersey commented on the following:

--Expressed his appreciation to June for her service for last three years, she has served the Commission well. She is leaving the County Manager's Office and going back to Emergency Management. She will be a valuable asset to that department.

He welcomed Ms. Sandra Harrell as the new Administrative Assistant to the County Manager.

Mr. Crawford said that June has been his right-hand and she is to be accredited for much of the administrative success of the County Manager's Office. Ms. Neats has requested to go back to the Emergency Management Department to be back in her field.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS – EDDIE J. LEWIS:

--Reminded the Board of the workshop following the meeting.

--Again, expressed his appreciation to Chief Smith, Nelson Green, Lieut. Russell and the Sheriff for putting the shared dispatch services project together.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

WORKSHOP

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in a workshop session on Monday, October 1, 2007, in the County Commissioners' Meeting Room, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

Present were: Commissioner Hersey, Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Lewis, Commissioner Cooper and Commissioner Chandler.

Also present: Jim Crawford, County Manager; Sandra Harrell, Administrative Assistant; Alex Hinely, County Planner; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Angela Macey, Community Development Director; Ricky Thompson, City Manager; Brad Carter, Jail Administrator; June Neats and Darrell O'Neal.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lewis called the workshop to order at 10:34 a.m.

DISCUSSION

MULLINS GRADE PAVING PROJECT—PURCHASE OF PROPERTY:

Commissioner Cooper said that an issue has arisen that he feels is an opportunity, but wants to get the thoughts of the Board to see if it is something the Board would be interested in moving forward with.

(The Property Appraiser's website was used to assist in the discussion.)

There is a total of 44 acres available on the north side of Mullins Grade. The property to the south is being considered for development and possibly annexation into the city. The developer of the property has been negotiating with Rayonier for the property to the north, primarily to meet the contiguous requirement for annexation into the City of Starke. Prior to the developer's involvement, he had some conversations directly with Rayonier about the possibility of purchasing that property as a potential future site for the Road Department and Animal Control.

Just to the north of the railroad spur is the existing Industrial Complex that is accessed on SR100. In a conversation with the Development Authority, they have expressed an interest in purchasing the 44 acres to expand the Industrial Complex. However, they do not have the means to purchase the property. The thought is for the County to purchase the property with an agreement that as the Development Authority sold off lots, that they would reimburse the County. The Rayonier price that is being discussed with the developer is \$10,500.00 an acre. The Development Authority director advises that they have been selling their Industrial Park lots in the neighborhood of \$30,000.00 per acre, which they feel is lower than market value.

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Discussion ensued which was not limited to but included the Mullins Grade paving project, whether to purchase the property directly from Rayonier or from the developer, the layout of the Industrial Park, the intent of the developer, and moving the Road Department and Animal Control.

There was a consensus for Commissioner Cooper to explore it further and make a recommendation to the Commission.

SOLID WASTE:

Mr. Crawford explained the concept of the \$75.00 special assessment for disposal of solid waste for residents in the unincorporated areas versus the city residents paying an additional \$21.12 tipping fee, which puts the tipping fee at \$45.12; the highest tipping fee charged for Class I waste. The City Commission is trying to determine if this is their fair share.

He recommended having Jones Edmonds perform research to help determine what is fair for the city. It will mean a reduction, but no one really knows how much. Jones Edmonds said if we provide the data, they could review it, calculate a fair fee and provide a letter of recommendation.

There was discussion that was not limited to but included the solid waste special assessment, both county and city residents paying the same amount, the city residents utilizing the drop off sites, history of the closure of the landfill and how the special assessment and tipping fees were calculated in 1988.

Mr. O'Neal said that it would take him a couple of weeks to assemble the data. Mr. Crawford said that it would take Jones Edmonds about one week to provide a recommendation, once they have the data. If it is satisfactory to Mr. Thompson's schedule, they should be able to have a good recommendation by the first Commission meeting in November that both the City of Starke and the County can accept.

There was additional discussion regarding tipping fees, collection costs and the possibility of a countywide (including the municipalities) solid waste special assessment.

There being no further discussion, the workshop adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

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

EDDIE J. LEWIS, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____
RAY NORMAN, CLERK OF COURTS

Minutes prepared by Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk