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BOARD MINUTES FOR 08/30/94

AUGUST 30, 1994

PURSUANT TO A RECESS FROM THE AUGUST 25, 1994 MEETING, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MET ON THE ABOVE DATE AT 6:00 P. M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 711 THIRD STREET, CHIPLEY, FLORIDA 32428 WITH COMMISSIONERS CARTER, TAYLOR, MORRIS, BROCK AND CORBIN PRESENT. CLERK EARNESTINE MILLER, ADMINISTRATOR ROGER HAGAN AND DEPUTY CLERK DIANNE CARTER WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

CHAIRMAN MORRIS CALLED THE RECESSED MEETING TO ORDER.

SHERIFF HASTY ADDRESSED THE BOARD WITH HIS BUDGET HE HAD REWORKED AND ADVISED THE BOARD HE HAD REDUCED HIS BUDGET BY APPROXIMATELY \$100,000.00. HE ADVISED THE BOARD THIS IS NOT THE BUDGET HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE; ADDING HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE BUDGET HE PRESENTED TO THEM LAST WEEK. HE ASKED THE BOARD TO BE FAIR TO HIS EMPLOYEES.

SHERIFF HASTY GAVE A COMPARISON OF SALARIES OF HIS EMPLOYEES TO OTHER COUNTY EMPLOYEES. HASTY TOLD THE BOARD HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW THEY COULD COMPARE THE OTHER COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO HIS EMPLOYEES WITH THE DANGEROUS AND HAZARDOUS JOBS HIS PERSONNEL HAS TO DO.

HASTY ALSO REMARKED HE WOULD NOT HAVE DONE THE BOARD LIKE THEY DID HIM, CHANGED HIS BUDGET AFTER HE LEFT THE MEETING LAST WEEK. HE FELT THE BOARD OUGHT TO HAVE MADE THEIR DECISION ON HIS BUDGET WHILE HE WAS PRESENT. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR SAID HE REGRETTED THAT SHERIFF HASTY FELT THAT HE WOULD DO SOMETHING BEHIND HIS BACK THAT HE WOULDN'T DO TO HIS FACE. HASTY COMMENTED HE WOULD HAVE STAYED AT THE MEETING HAD HE KNOWN THE BOARD WAS GOING TO ACT ON HIS BUDGET.

COMMISSIONER CARTER SAID ALL THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND THE SHERIFF WOULD HAVE TO SIT DOWN AND FIND THE MONEY TO FUND THEIR BUDGETS, AS THE MONEY WAS NOT THERE. CARTER SAID HE BELIEVED A SALARY RATE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED WHEN HE FIRST CAME ON BOARD.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AGAIN REFERENCED HOLMES COUNTY BEING A TYPICAL COUNTY, AS FAR AS LIKELINESS TO WASHINGTON COUNTY, TO MAKE A COMPARISON WITH. TAYLOR SAID POPULATION WISE, WASHINGTON COUNTY WAS LARGER; THEREFORE, WASHINGTON COUNTY'S OFFICERS SHOULD DRAW A HIGHER SALARY THAN THEY ARE DRAWING. TAYLOR SAID WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY'S SHERIFF BUDGET BEING ALMOST \$500,000.00 MORE THAN HOLMES COUNTY, OUR OFFICERS' SALARIES SHOULD BE WELL ABOVE HOLMES COUNTY BUT THEY ARE NOT.

CHAIRMAN MORRIS REFERENCED RAISES BEING BUDGETED IN THE PAST FOR SHERIFF EMPLOYEES BUT THE MONEY WAS USED FOR SOMETHING ELSE. HE TOLD SHERIFF HASTY ALL OF HIS EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE WHERE THEY ARE SUPPOSE TO BE SALARY WISE IF THEY HAD GOTTEN THEIR RAISES. MORRIS QUESTIONED SHOULD THE TAXPAYERS HAVE TO PAY DOUBLE SALARIES NOW BECAUSE THE SHERIFF'S EMPLOYEES WERE NOT GIVEN THEIR RAISES. SHERIFF HASTY SAID THAT HAPPENED PRIOR TO HIS TAKING OFFICE AND HE WOULD MAKE SURE IF SALARY INCREASES WERE BUDGETED FOR HIS EMPLOYEES, THEY WOULD RECEIVE THE INCREASE.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN ASKED ADMINISTRATOR HAGAN TO EXPLAIN TO THE BOARD WHAT HE HAD DONE ON THE BUDGET. HAGAN ADVISED THE BOARD WITH THERE BEING 6% MORE MONEY THAN LAST YEAR, HE TOOK LAST YEAR'S BUDGET, INCREASED EACH DEPARTMENT'S BOTTOM LINE TOTAL BY 5% UNLESS THEIR REQUEST WAS LESS, AND ADDED THE BUDGETS THE BOARD HAD ALREADY TENTATIVELY APPROVED WITH THIS TOTALLING \$1,335,488.00. IN DOING THIS, THERE WAS AN EXCESS OF \$107,308.00 OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES.

SHERIFF HASTY SAID HE HAD MET WITH JUDGE SIRMON, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, AND JUDGE ALLEN REGISTER TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE WAYS TO KEEP THE FLOW OF INMATE DETENTION DOWN. HASTY ALSO ADVISED THE BOARD JUDGE SIRMON WAS INTERESTED IN GETTING A JAIL COUNCIL STARTED.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE NUMBER OF VEHICLES THE SHERIFF HAD WITH SHERIFF HASTY ADVISING HE HAD TWENTY ONE (21) ROAD VEHICLES. COMMISSIONER TAYLOR SAID IT SEEMED IF HASTY COULD DO WITHOUT ONE LESS CAR, THIS WOULD COME UP TO APPROXIMATELY \$1,000.00 A YEAR RAISE FOR HIS EMPLOYEES.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN REQUESTED THE BOARD INCREASE THE JAIL DETENTION BUDGET BY \$60,000.00 AND INCREASE THE LEGAL SERVICES BUDGET BY \$30,000.00 DUE TO A COURT ORDER STATING THE BOARD MUST PAY \$17,000.00 FOR EXPERT WITNESS FEES RELATING TO AN ARSON CASE. COMMISSIONER CORBIN OFFERED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BUDGET ADMINISTRATOR HAGAN HAD PRESENTED AND INCREASE THE DETENTION AND CORRECTION BUDGET BY \$60,000.00

AND INCREASE THE LEGAL SERVICES BUDGET BY \$30,000.00. THE MOTION DIED FOR A LACK OF A SECOND.

CHAIRMAN MORRIS CALLED FOR A TEN MINUTE RECESS.

PURSUANT TO A RECESS, DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE SHERIFF'S BUDGET AGAIN. SHERIFF HASTY ASSURED THEM MONIES ALLOTTED FOR SALARY INCREASES FOR HIS EMPLOYEES WOULD BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN TOLD HASTY THE BOARD COULDN'T GIVE HIM THE AMOUNT OF BUDGET INCREASE HE WAS WANTING; THE BOARD HAD FIGURED ON GIVING THE SHERIFF A 5% INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR'S BUDGET PLUS FUND THE 9-1-1 DISPATCHING.

SHERIFF HASTY SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO APPEAL HIS BUDGET IF THE BOARD AND HE COULD NOT RECONCILE ON HIS BUDGET REQUEST. CHAIRMAN MORRIS TOLD HASTY TO DO WHATEVER HE FELT WAS RIGHT.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THE BOARD THAT HUNTS INSURANCE COMPANY WAS OFFERING A QUOTE ON INMATE MEDICAL COVERAGE IF THEY WERE INTERESTED. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN BY THE BOARD.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THE BOARD OF AN UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BILL ON ONE OF THE SHERIFF'S EMPLOYEES, RONALD R. SORANTINO, FOR \$218.00. COMMISSIONER CORBIN OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CARTER AND CARRIED TO PAY THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BILL FOR \$218.00 ON RONALD R. SORANTINO.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER SAID ALBERT MILTON WAS WANTING TO QUOTE THE BOARD ON WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE FROM GRIT. THE BOARD HAD NO OBJECTIONS ON MILTON QUOTING WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE.

COMMISSIONER TAYLOR ASKED SHERIFF HASTY TO LOOK INTO HIS BUDGET TO SEE IF THERE WAS SOMEPLACE HE COULD CUT HIS BUDGET IN ORDER TO UPGRADE HIS BASE RATE OF PAY FOR HIS EMPLOYEES.

SHERIFF HASTY SAID HE WOULD MAKE A PROPOSAL TO TAKE ONE HALF OF HIS ORIGINAL BUDGET REQUEST WITH A COMMITMENT THE BOARD WILL RAISE IT UP NEXT YEAR PROVIDING THE FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE. CHAIRMAN MORRIS SAID HE COULD NOT COMMIT TO NEXT YEAR.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TAYLOR AND CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF CHARLOTTE SAPP FROM THE LIBRARY BOARD.

ADMINISTRATOR HAGAN ADDRESSED EROSION PROBLEMS CAUSED BY TROPICAL STORM ALBERTO AND THE SITES SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE WILL BE WORKING ON. HAGAN RECOMMENDED THE BOARD ACCEPT ATTORNEY HOWELL'S LETTER STATING ALL THE EROSION CORRECTION PROPOSED WAS ON COUNTY RIGHTS OF WAY EXCEPT FOR THREE WHICH EXTENDED INTO PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNED BY ROSEWOOD AND CHAIN LAKES LODGE, WITH THE BOARD NEEDING TO OBTAIN AN EASEMENT OR AGREEMENT FROM THE OWNERS ON THESE RIGHTS OF WAY, AUTHORIZE ATTORNEY HOWELL TO PREPARE THE WORDING FOR THE AGREEMENTS, ACCEPT THE AGREEMENTS CONTINGENT UPON THEM BEING SIGNED BY THE PROPERTY OWNERS IN ORDER TO PROCEED WITH EROSION CORRECTION ON THE PROPERTY, AND AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATOR HAGAN TO SIGN THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICES ON CORRECTING THE EROSION PROBLEMS CAUSED BY TROPICAL STORM ALBERTO. COMMISSIONER CARTER OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CORBIN AND CARRIED TO ACCEPT ADMINISTRATOR HAGAN'S RECOMMENDATION.

ADMINISTRATOR HAGAN RECOMMENDED THE BOARD ACCEPT AN EASEMENT FROM BETTY TRAWEEK IN ORDER TO REMOVE A DAM TO TAKE WATER ACROSS HER PROPERTY.

ADMINISTRATOR HAGAN RECOMMENDED THE BOARD AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN MORRIS TO SIGN THE PLAT ON ORANGE HILL CORNERS RANCHETTE AS THEY HAD APPROVED THE PLAT AT THEIR AUGUST 18TH MEETING. THE BOARD AGREED FOR THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE PLAT.

COMMISSIONER CARTER OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CORBIN AND CARRIED TO RECESS UNTIL 1:00 P. M. ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1994.

ATTEST: _____
CLERK CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____
DEPUTY CLERK

END OF MINUTES FOR 08/30/94