

BOARD MINUTES FOR 04/06/01

APRIL 6, 2001

PURSUANT TO A RECESS FROM MARCH 22, 2001, WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET ON THE ABOVE DATE AT 1:00 P.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ANNEX, BOARD MEETING ROOM, 1331 SOUTH BOULEVARD, CHIPLEY, FLORIDA WITH COMMISSIONERS BROCK, FINCH, HALL, COPE AND ENFINGER PRESENT. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT PETER HERBERT, CLERK LINDA COOK AND DEPUTY CLERK DIANNE CARTER WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

CHAIRMAN COPE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER, OFFERED PRAYER AND LED IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT-WILLIAM CLECKLEY, DIVISION DIRECTOR OF NFWFMD IN CHARGE OF DIVISION OF LANDS ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT, GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF THEIR LAND ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN AS IT RELATES TO WASHINGTON COUNTY.

1. THEY OWN APPROXIMATELY 109,000 FROM ESCAMBIA RIVER TO LAKE JACKSON IN TALLAHASSEE FOR WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION PURPOSES. PRIMARILY THEY OWN THE MAJOR FLOOD PLAINS OF THE MAJOR RIVER SYSTEMS IN FLORIDA.
2. THEY HAVE AN ACTIVE ACQUISITION PROGRAM; THEY ACQUIRE LAND THROUGH THE WATER MANAGEMENT LANDS TRUST FUND WHICH IS SAVE OUR RIVERS ACQUISITION PROGRAM; PRESERVATION 2000 PROGRAM AND THE FLORIDA FOREVER PROGRAM.
3. NFWFMD IS STILL TRYING TO ACTIVELY ACQUIRE PROPERTY AROUND THE RECHARGE AREAS; PRIMARILY, IN HOLDINGS WITHIN THEIR CURRENT OWNERSHIP FOR MANAGEMENT REASONS; THEY ARE LOOKING AT CONSERVATION EASEMENTS TO SURROUNDING LAND OWNERS WHERE AN INDIVIDUAL KEEPS HIS PROPERTY AND NFWFMD BUYS HIS DEVELOPMENT AND LAND USE CONVERSION RIGHTS; THE PROPERTY OWNER CONTINUES TO PAY TAXES AND CONTINUES TO MANAGE IT. UNDER THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT SCENARIO, BY PROTECTING THE RESOURCES AND SOME OF THE NATURAL HABITAT AREAS, IT STILL ALLOWS THE TRADITIONAL USE OF THE LAND, STILL PROTECTS IT AND THIS MISSION CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED FOR ABOUT \$.50 ON THE \$1.00; IT IS A VERY COST EFFECTIVE PROGRAM.
4. NFWFMD STILL BUYS PROPERTY IN FEE SIMPLE; SOME THEY ARE PRESENTLY LOOKING AT IS HOBBS PASTURE TRACK-THE PENINSULA BETWEEN ECONFINA CREEK AND CEDAR CREEK WHERE IT COMES DOWN AND HITS DEER POINT LAKE IN BAY COUNTY; THEY HAVE BEEN TALKING TO WASHINGTON COUNTY LAND OWNERS ABOUT CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AROUND HIGHWAY 20 AND ALSO PROPERTIES AROUND HOLMES CREEK, EAST AND WEST OF THE VERNON CREEK.
5. NFWFMD HAS ABOUT 38,000 ACRES ALONG ECONFINA CREEK CURRENTLY IN BAY, JACKSON AND WASHINGTON COUNTY; APPROXIMATELY 15,000 TO 20,000 ACRES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY ALONG THE CHOCTOWHATCHEE RIVER AND ABOUT 2,000 ACRES IN THEIR BLOCK ON HOLMES CREEK; THEY HAVE APPROXIMATELY 50,000 TO 55,000 ACRES IN WASHINGTON COUNTY.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED HOW NFWFMD WENT ABOUT OBTAINING THESE PROPERTIES. CLECKLEY ADDRESSED NFWFMD ONLY GOING AFTER WILLING SELLERS WHO HAVE PROPERTY THAT HAVE WATER PROTECTION BENEFITS AND WOULD FIT THEIR MISSION. THEY SEND THE PROPERTY OWNER AN APPLICATION, REQUEST INFORMATION, AN INHOUSE EVALUATION OF THE WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION BENEFITS TO THE PROPERTY IS DONE, IF NFWFMD FEELS IT IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH, THEY WILL TRY TO PLACE A CONSERVATION

EASEMENT OR BUY THE PROPERTY OUTRIGHT. ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS NFWFMD LOOKS AT IS A REALISTIC ASKING PRICE FOR THE PROPERTY; THEY HAVE TO HAVE PROPERTIES APPRAISED AND APPROVED BY THEIR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BEFORE THEY MAKE AN OFFER. IF THEY MAKE AN OFFER AND ARE SUCCESSFUL REACHING A PURCHASE PRICE, THEY TAKE THE CONTRACT TO THE NFWFMD GOVERNING BOARD FOR APPROVAL; ONCE THIS IS DONE, IT PROCEEDS TO CLOSING. IN THE LAST FOURTEEN YEARS, THEY HAVE SAVED THE TAXPAYERS APPROXIMATELY \$22,000,000 IN UNDER APPRAISED VALUE.

CLECKLEY POINTED OUT UNDER THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROCESS:

1. THE LANDOWNER COULD CONTINUE TO USE THE PROPERTY AS THERE ARE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS BUT ALSO A LOT OF FLEXIBILITY WITH THIS PROCESS.
2. THE LAND CAN ALSO CHANGE HANDS AND THE OWNER HAS THE RIGHT TO SWITCH BACK AND FORTH LAND USES AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT IMPACT THE WATER USAGE. THEY HAVE ALLOWANCES FOR WILDLIFE FOOD PLOTS, ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES, RESIDENCES UP TO A POINT; THEY CAN EVEN NEGOTIATE A SUBDIVISION OF THE PROPERTY.

COMMISSIONER HALL QUESTIONED HOW THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT AFFECTED WITH THE HIGH WATER MARK. CLECKLEY ADVISED IT DIDN'T BECAUSE NFWFMD DIDN'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE DETAILED SOVEREIGN LANDS SURVEYS THAT DEP AND THE CARL PROGRAM DO.

COMMISSIONER COPE QUESTIONED IF THE TIMBER COULD BE HARVESTED UNDER THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. CLECKLEY ADVISED IT COULD BECAUSE NFWFMD IS NOT MAKING A SOVEREIGNTY CLAIM BUT IS SAYING IT HAS A POTENTIAL SOVEREIGNTY.

COMMISSIONER ENFINGER QUESTIONED IF THIS WOULD CHANGE IF THE LAWSUIT WAS WON IN FAVOR OF THE CATTLEMEN IN SOUTH FLORIDA. CLECKLEY ADVISED HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN THEN; NOBODY HAS RESOLVED THAT PROBLEM SINCE 1945 AND HE DOUBTS IT WILL BE RESOLVED WITHIN THE NEXT 50 YEARS.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED HOW NFWFMD WENT ABOUT DISCOVERING PROPERTIES TO PURCHASE AS HE HAS SEEN PLACES OUT IN THE SANDHILLS WHERE THERE WAS A LARGE TRACT OF LAND THAT DIDN'T TIE INTO ANYTHING BUT WAS OWNED BY WATER MANAGEMENT. CLECKLEY ADDRESSED A LOT OF TIME WHEN A LANDOWNER COMES TO THEM TO SELL A PIECE OF PROPERTY, IT IS NOT ONE BIG CONTIGUOUS TRACT; THERE ARE LITTLE PIECES AROUND IT AND MOST OF THE TIME IT IS AN ALL OR NONE DEAL. IN THAT SCENARIO, THEY HAVE AN AVENUE TO SURPLUS PROPERTY IF IT DOESN'T MEET THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT WAS ACQUIRED; BUT, IN MOST INSTANCES, THEY TRY TO EXCHANGE THOSE PROPERTIES FOR PUBLIC ACCESS, LAND MANAGEMENT ACCESS OR A MAJOR RIVER CORRIDOR.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED IF WATER MANAGEMENT PLANNING CONTINUES TO ACTIVELY LOOK FOR PROPERTY TO BUY. CLECKLEY ADVISED NFWFMD TRIED TO GET ALL THE PROPERTY THEY COULD AROUND THE RIVER FLOOD PLAINS MAINLY BECAUSE THEY DRIVE THE BAY SYSTEM; RECHARGE AREAS ARE VERY SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE OF THE RECHARGE THAT IS GOING ON.

COMMISSIONER HALL QUESTIONED IF WATER MANAGEMENT'S GOAL WAS JUST TO PROTECT THE FRESH WATER SYSTEMS OR GO TO SELLING THE WATER TO OTHER STATES. CLECKLEY ADVISED HE DID NOT THINK THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN; THERE WAS A MOVE IN CENTRAL FLORIDA TO TRY AND GET SOME WATER BUT DOESN'T FEEL THE ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL WILL IS THERE FOR IT TO HAPPEN.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED NFWFMD HAVING BOUGHT PROPERTY IN WASHINGTON COUNTY THAT WAS TOTALLY ALOOF FROM ANY WATER SYSTEMS IN THE COUNTY.

LLOYD POWELL ADDRESSED NFWFMD PURCHASING ALL THE LAND; A PERSON HAS TO BUY A WATER MANAGEMENT PERMIT TO USE IT AND IN THE SANDHILLS, NFWFMD HAS FENCED UP ALL ROADS FOR WALKING ONLY. POWELL QUESTIONED WHAT GOOD WAS IT FOR NFWFMD TO BUY THE PROPERTY WHEN THEY CLOSE THE PROPERTY OFF TO THE PUBLIC. CLECKLEY ADDRESSED NFWFMD HAVING THREE STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS:

1. PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES
2. PROTECTION, MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF NATURAL HABITAT
3. RECREATION; IF RECREATION CONFLICTS WITH THE OTHER TWO OBLIGATIONS, NFWFMD DOES NOT HAVE TO PROVIDE FOR IT. THEY

TRY TO IN ALL INSTANCES, PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC RECREATION AND IN ALL INSTANCES THEY PROVIDE PUBLIC ACCESS; BUT, THIS DOES NOT MEAN VEHICULAR ACCESS.

CLECKLEY DID A PRESENTATION ON PROTECTION OF RESOURCES. HE ADDRESSED NFWFMD HAVING BOUGHT THE RECHARGE AREA FOR WATER RECHARGE AND WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION SERVICES. IN 1992 THEY BOUGHT BLUE SPRINGS TRACT, HARDIN TRACT; TO CONCENTRATE ON A CORRIDOR, THEY PURCHASED PROPERTY FROM ROSEWOOD AND ST. JOE PAPER COMPANY, PICKED UP WILLIFORD AND PITTS SPRINGS AND IN 1997 THEY PURCHASED OVER 29,000 ACRES FROM ROSEWOOD TIMBER COMPANY PRIMARILY TO PROTECT THE RECHARGE AREA. ECONFINA CREEK IS A BIG WATER SUPPLY FOR WASHINGTON AND BAY COUNTY AND THE PANAMA CITY AREA; AT BASE FLOW, THE SPRINGS INTO ECONFINA CONTRIBUTES 80% OF THE WATER TO THE CREEK. THE REASON NFWFMD BOUGHT THIS RECHARGE AREA IS BECAUSE ALL THE UPLANDS IS 40" OF THE 65" OF RAIN WE GET EVERY YEAR ON AN AVERAGE GOES INTO THE FLORIDA AQUA TO THE RECHARGE AREA; IF THE RECHARGE AREA HAD NOT BEEN PURCHASED, THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY WOULD HAVE BEEN POISONED. WHEN ROSEWOOD APPROACHED THEM TO PURCHASE THE PROPERTY, THEY ASKED ROSEWOOD IF THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO FUND A STUDY TO PROVE TO NFWFMD BOARD AND TO THE PUBLIC, THIS PROPERTY IS AN IMPORTANT RECHARGE AREA; ROSEWOOD DID THIS AND SPENT ABOUT \$175,000. NFWFMD'S HYDROLOGIST SUNK SOME WELLS, TOOK MEASUREMENTS FROM EXISTING WELLS IN THE AREA THROUGH THEIR SCIENCE, CAME UP WITH A TENSION METRIC MAP THAT OUTLINES THE POTENTIAL RECHARGE OF RAINWATER INTO THE AREAS; WITHIN THE ECONFINA SANDHILLS AREA IT IS ALL 35 TO 40 INCHES OF RAINFALL. FOR NFWFMD TO LOOK AT RECHARGE RATES NORTH, SOUTH, EAST OR WEST OF THIS AREA WOULD MEAN ANOTHER STUDY WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE MEANING IT WOULD TAKE MORE MONEY AND MORE WELLS.

HE THEN GAVE SOME HISTORY ON THE ECONFINA CREEK AREA:

1. UNIQUE NATURAL RESOURCES
2. IN 1828, WILLIAM GAINER AND ANDREW JACKSON SETTLED AROUND ECONFINA CREEK
3. ECONFINA CREEK IS STATE DESIGNATED CANOE TRAIL
4. ECONFINA SAND HILLS AREA CONTAINS OVER 50 LAKES FROM ONE UP TO 600 ACRES; THEY HAVE TEN ONE SEVENTH AND FIVE THIRD MAGNITUDE SPRINGS AND HAVE ACTIVELY BEEN TRYING TO PURCHASE GAINER SPRINGS. THE AREA HAS A LOT OF UNIQUE PLANT SPECIES; CONTAINS 30 TO 40% OF THE ST. JOHNS WARTS AROUND THE PONDS AND THIS IS FOUND NO OTHER PLACE IN THE WORLD, A LOT OF ANIMAL SPECIES, INCLUDING INDEMIC SNAILS IN BLUE SPRINGS, GOPHERS, TORTOISES, WILD TURKEY POPULATION AND A LOT OF WILDLIFE.

CLECKLEY SHOWED FILM PRESENTATIONS ON SPARKLEBERRY LAKE WHERE THE ORANGE HILL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT DID EROSION CONTROL PROJECTS; NFWFMD SPENT ABOUT \$19,000 TO FIX THE HILLSIDE THAT WAS COMPLETELY ERODED AWAY BY FOUR WHEEL TRUCKS HAVING BOG INS. NFWFMD PURCHASED THE PROPERTY, SHUT IT DOWN AND OPENED IT UP TO A GOOD GROUP SITE.

CLECKLEY SHOWED SLIDES OF HOW PIT SPRINGS ON HIGHWAY 20 LOOKED PRIOR TO NFWFMD PURCHASING IT FROM THE CLOROX COMPANY AND HOW IT WAS IMPACTED WHEN NFWFMD OPENED IT UP FOR PUBLIC USE. THEY SPENT ABOUT \$25,000 TO ARMOR ABOUT 2/3 OF THE BANKS; THEY HAD TO COME BACK LATER TO ARMOR THE REMAINING PART OF THE BANK BECAUSE OF HEAVY USE. THEY GET ANYWHERE FROM 150 TO 200 PEOPLE A DAY ON THE WEEKENDS IN THE AREA; THEY REST THIS AREA IN THE WINTER; ONLY OPEN IT ON WEEKENDS DUE TO IT BEING TOO MUCH OF AN IMPACT ON THE RESOURCE.

CLECKLEY SHOWED SLIDES ON EROSION PROBLEMS CAUSED BY UNLIMITED ROADS OVER THE RECHARGE AREAS; ONE AREA WAS A DITCH THAT WENT ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE GULLY POND AND THIS WAS CAUSED BY PEOPLE DRIVING AROUND THE LAKES WITH FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES. HE ALSO ADDRESSED PEOPLE LAUNCHING THEIR BOATS, LEAVING THEIR VEHICLES IN THE LAKE WITH THE POTENTIAL FOR TRANSMISSION FLUID, OILS, ETC. TO GO IN THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY. THEY HAVE STARTED A PROGRAM OF BUILDING TRI-LOCK CONCRETE BOAT RAMPS TO THE MAJOR LAKE SYSTEMS LIKE THE HAMMOCK, PORTER, ETC. TO

TRY TO MAKE IT SOLELY FOR THE INDIVIDUALS AND ARE TRYING TO MAKE ONE OR TWO MAJOR ACCESS POINTS TO THE MAJOR LAKES SO PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO GO TO THE LAKES, LAUNCH THEIR BOAT, ETC. THE WHOLE CONCEPT OF DRIVING AROUND AND AROUND THE LAKES AND HAVING MULTIPLE ACCESS POINTS TO THE MAJOR LAKES, NWFWMDCANNOT DO IT AND PROTECT THE RESOURCES. HE REFERENCED THE IMPACT TO HABITAT ALSO.

HE SHOWED A SLIDE OF RATTLESNAKE LAKE AND PEOPLE BEING VERY UPSET WHEN NWFWMDCLOSED IT DOWN; PRIOR TO THEM CLOSING IT, HE HAD GOT REPORTS OF A CROWD OF PEOPLE BEING AT THE LAKE ALONG WITH ABOUT FIFTY HORSES STANDING IN THE LAKE DEFICATING IN THE LAKE WITH KIDS SWIMMING. HE ADDRESSED THE WATER QUALITY ISSUES, HEALTH ISSUES, LIABILITY ISSUES AND IT WAS NOT RIGHT FOR THE RESOURCE. NWFWMDC WANTS TO CREATE NICE FAMILY ORIENTAL RECREATIONAL AREAS AND PROVIDE TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL USES SUCH AS HUNTING, FISHING, HORSEBACK RIDING, ETC. BUT THEY WILL HAVE TO LIMIT IT TO DESIGNATED TRAILS AND THINGS OF THAT NATURE.

HE POINTED OUT NWFWMDC:

1. DEVELOPED CAMPING AREAS, IMPROVED BOAT LAUNCHES AND SITES AT PORTER LAKE, WHITE OAK LANDING AND TOM JOHNS LANDING AND HAVE PLANS TO OPEN ANOTHER GROUP SITE AT PORTER LAKE BEACH.
2. WAS TRYING TO CORRECT EROSION PROBLEMS AT DEVILS HOLE ON THE EAST SIDE OF ECONFINA CREEK JUST NORTH OF WALSINGHAM BRIDGE.
3. HAVING AN IMPACT TO A HORSETRAIL ON THE EAST END OF RATTLESNAKE LAKE CAUSED BY PERSONS USING AN UNAUTHORIZED HORSETRAIL GOING DOWN THE SEEPHEAD RAVINE SYSTEM AND GOING STRAIGHT BACK UP WHICH WAS BEGINNING TO CREATE AN EROSION GULLY ON BOTH SIDES. THE SEEPHEAD RAVINE SYSTEM IS A VERY ENDANGERED HABITAT SYSTEM GLOBALLY.
4. WAS HAVING PROBLEMS WITH GARBAGE ON THEIR SITES AND SHOWED A SLIDE REGARDING THIS ISSUE.
5. WAS TRYING TO DESIGNATE TRAILS AND ROADS FOR THE PUBLIC TO USE.
6. HAS IMPROVED ONE ROAD CALLED ECONFINA ROAD WHICH IS A CONTINUATION OF ENFINGER ROAD.
7. HAS SPENT A LOT OF MONEY CLEANING UP OTHER PEOPLES MESSSES.
8. IS HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THEIR SIGNS AND SHOWED A SLIDE ON WHAT HAPPENED NOT TOO LONG AFTER THEIR DEDICATION OF WALSINGHAM CANOE LAUNCH.
9. IS COMMITTED TO KEEPING THE AREA OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND MAKING IT A REALLY GOOD NATURAL AREA FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.
10. IS SPENDING ABOUT \$100,000 A YEAR FOR LAW

ENFORCEMENT

ON THIS AREA AND ABOUT \$78,000 GOES TOWARD THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT. COMMISSIONER ENFINGER POINTED OUT THE MONEY THEY WERE SPENDING WAS BEING PAID BY THE TAXPAYERS AND NOT NWFWMDC. CLECKLEY AGREED BUT STATED NWFWMDC WAS STILL STEWARDS OF THE LAND AND ARE TRYING TO PROTECT THE TAXPAYERS INTEREST.

PROVIDE BASIC

PORTALET SERVICES FOR THEIR RECREATION SITES. 12. HAS A CONTRACT WITH ORANGE HILL WATER CONSERVATION FOR \$35,000 A YEAR TO DEVELOP SOME OF THE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, CLEAN UP SOME OF THEIR SITES, ETC.; ON AN AVERAGE THEY ARE PROBABLY SPENDING \$200,000 ON THIS ONE AREA ALONE ON ECONFINA CREEK AND ECONFINA CREEK RECHARGE. 13. HAS A LOT OF

CONCERNS

WITH THE NUMBER OF CARS AT PIT SPRINGS ON HIGHWAY 20 AT ECONFINA CREEK AND HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE THERE HAVE BEEN NO SERIOUS INJURIES AT THE SCENE. THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH FL-DOT, SOME OF THE CANOE OWNERS, ETC., TO TRY AND GET THE CARS OFF THE ROAD. THEY ARE IN

THE PROCESS OF GETTING A PERMIT TO DEVELOP A CANOE LAUNCH AND TAKE OUT POINT ON THE EAST/NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE CREEK. 14. IS IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THE WALSINGHAM CANOE LAUNCH WHICH NEEDS SOME WORK DUE TO EROSION PROBLEMS. 15. WHEN LOOKING AT ALL THE RECREATIONAL AND USER IMPACTS ON THE AREA, NFWFMD HIRED A CONSULTING FIRM TO DO A COMPREHENSIVE RECREATIONAL RESOURCE EVALUATION; THEY LOOKED AT THE IMPACTS TO THE AREA, IMPACTS TO WATER QUALITY, HABITAT AND MADE A LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW NFWFMD CAN ADDRESS THE IMPACTS. IT WILL TAKE FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS TO IMPLEMENT SOME OF THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS. 16. HAS STARTED A SPECIAL AREA FOR MOBILITY IMPAIRED HUNTERS. 17. MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT ZONES WITH SINGLE USE DESIGNATED

TRAILS; CLECKLEY ADDRESSED IN THESE AREAS YOU CANNOT PUT HORSES, BIKERS, HIKERS AND CAMPERS ALL IN THE SAME AREA. AROUND HAMMOND LAKE, SOUTHERN TRAILRIDERS ARE GOING TO DEDICATE ABOUT A FIFTEEN MILE HORSETRAIL WHICH IS ONE OF THREE THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING. THIS IS A USER GROUP DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP WHERE NFWFMD ENTERS INTO A CORPORATE AGREEMENT; THE GROUP DOES ALL THE LABOR, ETC. AND DEVELOPS THE TRAILS ACCORDING TO NFWFMD GUIDELINES AND SUPERVISION; NFWFMD DOES VERY LITTLE IF ANYTHING. 18. IS CONSIDERING ESTABLISHING SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY ZONES; THIS IS THE AREA NORTH OF HIGHWAY 20 AND WEST OF ECONFINA ROAD; THERE ARE A BUNCH OF SMALL LAKES FROM AN ACRE UP TO 15 TO 20 ACRES. WHEN THE WATER COMES BACK, NFWFMD WOULD LIKE TO RESTOCK THESE AREAS IF IT DOESN'T COME BACK NATURALLY AND MAKE IT A WALK-IN BAIT FISHING AREA.

NFWFMD IS TRYING TO PROTECT WATER RESOURCES, HABITAT AND PROVIDE GOOD RESOURCES FOR RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES; WASHINGTON COUNTY HAS A GOLD MINE BY HAVING THIS LARGE MAGNITUDE OF PUBLIC LAND; ALL KIND OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR TOURISM ONCE THE AREA IS DEVELOPED AND IT IS IN THE PUBLICS AND COMMISSIONS BEST INTEREST TO TRY AND PROTECT IT. NFWFMD WANTS TO WORK WITH WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARE VERY SENSITIVE TO THE COUNTY'S NEEDS AND CONCERNS AND VERY ACCOMODATING WHERE THEY CAN BE; AS LONG AS WHAT THE COUNTY ASK THEM TO DO DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH THEIR WATER RESOURCE PROTECTION OR HABITAT GOALS, THEY WILL TRY TO ACCOMODATE THEM.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON MOST OF THE WATER COMING OUT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY THAT GOES INTO ECONFINA CREEK BEING USED IN BAY COUNTY AND WHAT COULD THE COUNTY DO TO PRESERVE SOME OF THE WATER IN THE FUTURE.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THERE BEING A PIPELINE THAT WENT TOWARD THE BEACH AND ONE WAS GOING TOWARD TYNDALL; CLECKLEY HAD BEEN ADDRESSING WATER MANAGEMENT/WATER QUALITY FOR THE FUTURE. BROCK REFERENCED WASHINGTON COUNTY HAD GOOD WATER QUALITY, THE SAME RECRE- ATION WHICH NFWFMD HAS CUT PEOPLE OFF OF, OUTBOARD MOTORS WERE USED IN THE LAKES PRIOR TO NFWFMD BECOMING INVOLVED.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED WHO CAME UP WITH THE IDEA THAT WASHINGTON COUNTY WAS BEING DESTROYED AND NFWFMD NEEDED TO GO IN AND PURCHASE ALL THIS LAND AND PRESERVE IT. CLECKLEY ADDRESSED THIS AREA HAVING BEEN UNDER NFWFMD FIVE YEAR ACQUISITION PLAN SINCE 1981 BUT 1992 WAS WHEN THEY GOT THE OPPORTUNITY. HE THEN ADDRESSED THE GROWTH THAT HAS OCCURRED ON HIGHWAY 20 AND HIGHWAY 77 SINCE ROSEWOOD SOLD THEIR PROPERTY; IF NFWFMD DIDN'T BUY THIS AREA, THERE WOULD BE HOUSES AROUND ESSENTIALLY ALL THESE LAKES AND WOULD NOT HAVE GOOD WATER RESOURCES. COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED IF THERE WERE HOUSES THERE, THEY WOULD BE INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING SOME TYPE OF FUNDING SOURCE FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY. IF NFWFMD CONTINUES TO BE TAKING LAND AWAY, THAT WOULD BE A MAJOR IMPACT TO A COUNTY THE SIZE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY THAT DOESN'T HAVE A BIG DEVELOPMENT BASE FOR TAXES ANYWAY.

GEORGE FISHER WITH NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT ADDRESSED THE BOARD ADVISING ALL THE LAND THEY HAVE IN WASHINGTON COUNTY ARE WITHIN THE HUNTING PROGRAM AND ARE TYPE II LANDS; PERMITS ARE SOLD THROUGH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE; NFWFMD LOSES MONEY ON THIS EVERY YEAR DUE TO THE FEE HAVING REMAINED THE SAME SINCE 1984.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED ON NFWFMD CLOSING OFF ROADS TO WALKING ONLY. COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED IF HE WANTED TO GO HUNTING, HE WOULD HAVE TO WALK; HE IS NOT ABLE TO WALK AND THERE ARE GATES ON THE ROAD. FISHER ADVISED ABOUT 2/3 OF THE LAND THEY HAVE IN WASHINGTON COUNTY IS OPEN TO DOG HUNTING AND WHEREEVER THEY HAVE DOG HUNTING THEY TRY TO GET A LOT OF ROADS OPEN IN THERE EVEN IF IT OPENS JUST FOR THAT TIME OF YEAR. NFWFMD DOES TRY TO DO SOME SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY KIND OF HUNTS.

FISHER THEN ADDRESSED PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES; FOR ANY LANDS NFWFMD PURCHASES, THEY DO PAY THE TAXES. IN THE PAST, BY LAW, THEY HAVE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO REIMBURSE FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSION'S PORTION; WHATEVER TAXES THEY HAD COLLECTED ON THE LANDS THREE YEARS PRIOR TO WHEN NFWFMD PURCHASED IT, NFWFMD WILL MAKE THOSE PAYMENTS TO THE COUNTY; THIS TOTALS ABOUTS \$30,000 PER YEAR AND THIS WILL GO ON FOR ABOUT TEN YEARS. HE ADDRESSED THE COUNTY'S TEN YEARS COMING UP ON QUITE A FEW OF THE LANDS AND ADVISED THEY MAY WANT TO LOBBY THE STATE TO GET THIS CHANGED TO PERHAPS CONTINUE PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES INDEFINITELY SO LONG AS THE COUNTY IS TAXING AT SOME PORTION OF THE TOTAL MILLAGE CAP. ON NEW LANDS, STARTING LAST YEAR, THEY PAY ALL THE TAXES FOR A TEN YEAR PERIOD.

COMMISSIONER ENFINGER REITERATED WHAT COMMISSIONER FINCH HAD SAID ABOUT NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT PURCHASING PRIME DEVELOPED LAND IN WASHINGTON COUNTY AND CURTAILING THE COUNTY'S TAX BASE. ENFINGER ADDRESSED WASHINGTON COUNTY WAS GIVING UP THEIR LAND AND THEIR RIGHTS TO USE THE LAND BASICALLY SO THE LOWER END OF THE COUNTY CAN HAVE ALL THE WATER AND ARE NOT EVEN GETTING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF TAXES BEING GENERATED. FISHER ADDRESSED THEY WERE ONLY DOING IT TO PROTECT WATER RESOURCES.

COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED WASHINGTON COUNTY WAS TAKING A TAX CUT AND BAY COUNTY WAS GETTING WASHINGTON COUNTY'S WATER.

COMMISSIONER ENFINGER ADDRESSED BAY COUNTY MAKING A LOT OF MONEY OFF OF THE WATER THEY ARE GETTING OUT OF WASHINGTON COUNTY AND WASHINGTON COUNTY CAN'T EVEN GET A GUARANTEE THEY CAN HAVE "X" AMOUNT OF GALLONS OF WATER IN THE FUTURE IF THEY NEED IT.

DON WALTERS ADDRESSED THE BOARD ADVISING IF THE COUNTY WANTS TO PRESERVE SOME OF THE WATER FOR THE FUTURE, THEY HAVE TO GET A LAW PASSED THROUGH THE LEGISLATURE TO GIVE THEM A PERMIT.

FISHER ADDRESSED UNDER THE NEW FLORIDA FOREVER PROGRAM, NFWFMD IS GOING TO CONTINUE TO GET ABOUT THE SAME AMOUNT OF MONEY AS THEY HAD BEEN GETTING IN THE PAST FROM EARLIER PROGRAMS. HOWEVER, HALF OF THE MONEY CAN BE SPENT ON THINGS OTHER THAN ACQUISITIO; THEIR GOVERNING BOARD DID VOTE TO SPEND HALF OF THE MONEY ON ACQUISITION AND THE OTHER HALF ON VARIOUS KINDS OF RESTORATION AND WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. THE GOVERNING BOARD HAS ALSO ASKED NFWFMD TO PROCEED WITH PROJECTS SUCH AS THE PROJECT THEY ARE DOING FOR VERNON; VERNON NEEDS A NEW PERK POND AND NFWFMD IS TRYING TO HELP THEM ACQUIRE SOME LAND WITH IT BEING 50/50 FUNDING.

HULAN CARTER ADDRESSED NFWFMD NOT BEING OPPOSED TO SHARING THE WATER BUT THEIR CHARGE IS TO PROTECT THE WATER QUALITY; THEY ARE NOT AGAINST WASHINGTON COUNTY NOT HAVING ANY BUT IT IS JUST THE PROCESS WASHINGTON COUNTY NEEDS TO GO THROUGH TO SECURE THAT RIGHT FOR THEIR OWN PROTECTION.

FISHER ADDRESSED THE CITY OF CHIPLEY IS TAKING ITS SEWAGE AND PUTTING IT IN THE CREEK AS WELL, SO THEY ARE A LOGICAL CANDIDATE FOR NFWFMD TO BE SPEAKING TO.

FISHER REFERENCED AN EXISTING AGREEMENT THAT WAS PUT TOGETHER YEARS AGO ON THEIR RECREATIONAL AREAS; IF WASHINGTON COUNTY HAS ANY RECREATIONAL AREAS ON NFWFMD LANDS THEY WOULD LIKE TO DEVELOP, NFWFMD WOULD PROVIDE THE MATERIALS IF THE COUNTY WOULD PROVIDE THE LABOR.

FISHER ADDRESSED THE STATE HAS OFFERED NFWFMD SIX PARCELS TOTALING 474 ACRES SCATTERED ON THE CHOCTOWHATCHEE, HOLMES CREEK AND PORTER POND; HE UNDERSTOOD THEY HAD OFFERED IT TO THE COUNTY AND THE COUNTY HAD ADVISED THE STATE THEY DID WANT IT; HOWEVER, THE STATE HAS NEVER GIVEN IT TO THEM. FISHER ADVISED THE STATE HAS ASKED HE HELP RESOLVE THIS AND SEE IF THE COUNTY STILL WANTS THE PROPERTY. IF THEY DON'T WANT IT, THEY COULD NOTIFY THE STATE TO GIVE IT TO NFWFMD.

CLECKLEY ADDRESSED NFWFMD DOING ENGINEER DESIGN PLANS FOR FOUR BRIDGES DISTRICT WIDE: APALACHICOLA RIVER SOUTH OF LIBERTY COUNTY; WALSINGHAM BRIDGE IS GOING TO BE REPLACED; EAST RIVER ISLAND BRIDGE AND YELLOW RIVER BRIDGE; THE BRIDGES WOULD BE FUNDED FROM THE FLORIDA FOREVER MONIES AND ARE GOING TO COST APPROXIMATELY \$500,000.00.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON NFWFMD LEASING LAND OUT FOR FEES. FISHER ADDRESSED THEM NOT BEING ABLE TO CHARGE A FEE BUT AGREED TO LEASE WASHINGTON COUNTY LAND AND THE COUNTY COULD CHARGE A FEE.

CLECKLEY ADDRESSED NFWFMD HAVING RULE MAKING AUTHORITY BUT HAVE NOT DEVELOPED ANY RULES. HE REQUESTED IF THERE WAS ANY WAY THE COUNTY COULD CONTEMPLATE LOCAL RULES OR ORDINANCES THAT WOULD ASSIST WATER MANAGEMENT WITH CERTAIN ACTIVITIES THAT ARE DETRIMENTAL IN SOME AREAS; ONE BEING HORSES ON DESIGNATED TRAILS ONLY.

POWELL REQUESTED NFWFMD OPEN UP SOME OF THE GATES ON SOME OF THE OLD PIG TRAIL ROADS FOR VEHICLE AND FOUR WHEELERS TO USE AS HE HATED TO SEE ALL THE LAND OPENED TO WALKING ONLY.

DON WALTERS RE-ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON THE DAMAGE FOUR WHEELERS HAS DONE TO THE AREAS WATER MANAGEMENT OWNS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY; PEOPLE WILL HAVE BETTER HUNTING, FISHING, AND RECREATION ACCESS AND IT WILL BE ORDERLY ONCE NFWFMD'S DEVELOPMENT PLAN HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED WHAT BOTHERED HIM WAS NFWFMD CAME IN LIKE THEY WERE GOING TO BE THE SALVATION FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY AND PRESERVE THEIR LAND; NOBODY WENT AND INVITED NFWFMD TO COME IN AND START BUYING UP THE LAND IN WASHINGTON COUNTY TO HELP PRESERVE THE LAND.

CLECKLEY ADVISED THEY HAD A WILLING SELLER WHO OFFERED THEM PROPERTY; NFWFMD THOUGHT IT HAD WATER RESOURCES THAT WERE BENEFICIAL TO THE CITIZENS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY AND NORTHWEST FLORIDA.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED HE MIGHT GO ALONG WITH THIS IF THERE WERE RESOURCES COMING IN WHERE WASHINGTON COUNTY COULD CONTINUE TO HAVE SOME TYPE OF FUNDING RESOURCES; HOWEVER, UNLESS THE LAW IS CHANGED, IN A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME THE LAND IS GOING TO BE GONE AND THERE WILL BE NO TAXES OR TAX BASE ASSOCIATED FOR THE LANDS.

CLECKLEY ADDRESSED IF NFWFMD HAD NOT BOUGHT THE PROPERTY, OVER A PERIOD OF 25 TO 50 YEARS, THE WATER SUPPLY IN WASHINGTON COUNTY COULD HAVE BEEN DEGRADED WHERE WASHINGTON COUNTY WOULD HAVE TO GO FIND ANOTHER SOURCE OF WATER BESIDES GOING DOWN TO THE ACQUAFER OR GETTING IT OUT OF THE CREEK.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADDRESSED HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A WAY WHERE NFWFMD COULD OFFER A HIGHER PRICE FOR LAND AND PURCHASE IT BEFORE IT IS CLEAR CUT. CLECKLEY ADDRESSED UNDER THEIR CONSERVATION EASEMENT ACQUISITION PROGRAM, THEY CAN GO IN AND BUY THE HARDWOOD TIMBER, FLOODPLAIN TIMBER AND WETLAND TIMBER AND PRESERVE IT.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT-ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT PETER HERBERT REFERENCED THE BOARD AT THEIR LAST MEETING APPROVED OF HIRING A CONSTRUCTION MANAGER FOR THE COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS. HE RECOMMENDED THEY APPOINT HIM, JUDGE ALLEN REGISTER, CLERK LINDA COOK, JAMES LEWIS FROM CRA, INC., LLOYD BRUNER AND COMMISSIONER COPE TO THE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE PROPOSALS, RANK THEM AND BRING BACK A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD. COMMISSIONER FINCH OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENFINGER AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF HERBERT'S REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE COURTHOUSE RENOVATIONS COMMITTEE.

FUNDS FOR PARK AND RECREATION—CHAIRMAN COPE ADDRESSED PARK AND RECREATION HAVING THE NEED FOR MORE EQUIPMENT AND HAD A REQUEST IN FOR \$15,000. COMMISSIONER ENFINGER OFFERED A MOTION TO FUND THE \$15,000 IF A PLACE CAN BE FOUND TO FUND IT; IF NOT, DON'T FUND IT.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON USING THE INTEREST MONIES EARNED OFF THE MONIES FROM ROAD LOAN MONIES THAT WAS DIVIDED UP AMONG EACH DISTRICT. WHEN QUESTIONED IF THESE INTEREST MONIES COULD BE USED, ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THE MONIES COULD BE USED FOR ANYTHING THE BOARD VOTES TO USE IT FOR.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED ON USING THE INTEREST MONIES (APPROXIMATELY \$19,000 PER DISTRICT) TO PURCHASE THE EQUIPMENT AND DIVIDING THE PURCHASE OF THE EQUIPMENT EQUALLY FROM EACH DISTRICT'S MONIES. IT WAS ALSO QUESTIONED IF EACH INMATE CREW WOULD BE WINDING UP WITH THE SAME EQUIPMENT. SUSAN LAWSON, PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT, ADVISED THE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE EQUALLY DISTRIBUTED; THEY WERE TRYING TO EQUIP EACH DISTRICT'S CREW WITH THE EQUIPMENT NEEDED. SHE ALSO ADVISED THE CONSTRUCTION CREW DOESN'T HAVE ANY EQUIPMENT AND THEY ARE GOING TO TRY AND PURCHASE EQUIPMENT THEY NEED. COMMISSIONER FINCH SECONDED THE MOTION. DISCUSSION CONTINUED ON THE TYPE OF MOWER BEING PURCHASED VERSUS THE DIXIE CHOPPER THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED. LAWSON ADVISED IT WAS DIFFICULT TO FIND PARTS FOR THE DIXIE CHOPPER. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COMPUTER DEPARTMENT AGREEMENT—ATTORNEY HOLLEY HAD PROVIDED THE BOARD A COPY OF THE AGREEMENT FOR THEIR REVIEW AND ADVISED BOTH THE TAX COLLECTOR AND PROPERTY APPRAISER HAD REVIEWED AND AGREED TO THE AGREEMENT; IN ORDER FOR IT TO BE IMPLEMENTED, IT NEEDED TO BE APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE BOARD. COMMISSIONER ENFINGER OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF THE COMPUTER DEPARTMENT AGREEMENT ON THE TRANSFER OF EMPLOYMENT OF KEN NAKER TO THE PROPERTY APPRAISER AND TAX COLLECTOR.

HOSPITAL LOAN RESOLUTION—ATTORNEY HOLLEY BRIEFED THE BOARD ON THE FINALIZED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO ISSUE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000,000 IN HOSPITAL REVENUE BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COST OF THE OFFICE MEDICAL COMPLEX; IT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOND ATTORNEY, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY HIM. PRIOR TO PROCEEDING ON THE BOND ISSUE, ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THE BOARD WOULD HAVE TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION. COMMISSIONER ENFINGER OFFERED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE HOSPITAL LOAN RESOLUTION.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY BRIEFED THE BOARD ON THE HOSPITAL LOAN RESOLUTION ADVISING THE SECURITY FOR THE PAYBACK OF THE BOND WOULD BE THE NET REVENUE OF THE HOSPITAL; THE BOARD IS NOT PLEDGING ANY TAXING POWER. COMMISSIONER FINCH SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED.

RIGHT OF WAY CERTIFICATE—ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THE RIGHT OF WAY CERTIFICATE WAS ONE OF THE FORMS RURAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES SAYING THE COUNTY PRESENTLY HOLDS OR HAS TITLE TO LAND THAT WOULD GIVE RIGHT OF WAY TO THE NEW OFFICE COMPLEX. COMMISSIONER ENFINGER OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HALL AND CARRIED TO ADOPT THE RIGHT OF WAY CERTIFICATE AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK TO SIGN IT.

KENNETH VARNUM/GREENHEAD—COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED KENNETH VARNUM WANTING TO SPEAK TO THE BOARD ON A LAND DISPUTE WHERE HIS NEIGHBOR IS TRYING TO BUILD A ROAD ON HIS LAND.

KENNETH VARNUM ADDRESSED THE BOARD SHOWING THEM A MAP OF THE LAND IN QUESTION AND ADVISING HE AND HIS RELATIVES OWNS THE LAND. VARNUM REFERENCED WORKERS FOR DONNIE HADDOCK WAS ON HIS PROPERTY DOING CLEARING FOR A ROAD AND ADVISED VARNUM THE COUNTY HAD GIVEN HADDOCK PERMISSION TO DO THE CLEARING. VARNUM ADVISED THE WORKERS THE COUNTY COMMISSION DIDN'T HAVE AUTHORITY TO GIVE HADDOCK PERMISSION AS IT WAS HIS PROPERTY.

VARNUM WAS WANTING TO GET A NOTE FROM THE BOARD ADMITTING OR DENYING THEY HAD GIVEN DONNIE HADDOCK PERMISSION TO BUILD A ROAD. DISCUSSION CONTINUED.

LINDA WALLER ADVISED THE BOARD SHE HAD DONE A SEARCH OF THE RECORDS AND DID NOT FIND WHERE HADDOCK HAD APPEARED BEFORE THE BOARD; SHE DID FIND IN 1998 WHERE HE HAD APPEARED BEFORE THE WASHINGTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION WITH QUESTIONS

ABOUT ACCESS TO HIS PROPERTY. AT THAT TIME, IT WAS TABLED WITH THERE BEING A COMMENT HADDOCK WOULD GET WITH ATTORNEY HOLLEY AND DISCUSS IT FURTHER.

VARNUM REFERENCED DOUG JONES HAVING APPEARED BEFORE THE BOARD IN 1992; WALLER ADVISED SHE DID NOT REFERENCE ANYTHING UNDER DOUG JONES, ONLY HADDOCK.

CHAIRMAN COPE ADVISED THE BOARD COULD NOT HAVE GIVEN ANYONE PERMISSION TO CLEAR THE PROPERTY BECAUSE IT WAS NOT THEIR PROPERTY AND THEY HAD NO RIGHTS TO THE PROPERTY. DISCUSSION CONTINUED.

COMMISSIONER ENFINGER OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CARRIED TO AUTHORIZE LINDA WALLER TO ISSUE A LETTER TO VARNUM STATING THE BOARD HAD NOT AUTHORIZED ANYONE TO DO ANY CLEARING ON HIS PROPERTY.

CHAIRMAN COPE CALLED FOR A TEN MINUTE RECESS.

PURSUANT TO A RECESS, CHAIRMAN COPE CALLED THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER AND THE BID OPENING ON THE WASHINGTON COUNTY, NORTHWEST FLORIDA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL-MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING WAS ADDRESSED. JOHN ALLEN, NWFCH ADMINISTRATOR AND LILLY BERRY, RECORDING SECRETARY FOR NWFCH, WERE PRESENT. MR. ALLEN ADVISED THE BOARD THEY COULD ISSUE AN INTENT TO AWARD THE BID FOR THE MEDICAL OFFICE COMPLEX CONTINGENT ON USDA'S FINAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL. COMMISSIONER HALL OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENFINGER AND CARRIED TO ISSUE AN AN INTENT TO AWARD THE BID FOR THE MEDICAL OFFICE COMPLEX CONTINGENT ON USDA'S FINAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL.

CLIFF KNAUER, COUNTY ENGINEER, BRIEFED THE BOARD ON THERE BEING SEVEN BIDDERS ON THE PROJECT; THE LOW BID ON THE PROJECT WENT FROM \$1,024,000 WITH ALTERNATES TO \$1,114,000 WITH ALTERNATES. THEY HAVE COMPARED THE COST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROJECTS INCLUDING ALL THE ALTERNATES; PHONE SYSTEMS, STANDARD SEAM ROOF INSTEAD OF SHINGLE ROOF AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS. THERE WAS AN ALLOWANCE INCLUDED BY WAY OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE PROJECT THAT COVERED THE COST OF \$30.00 A SQUARE YARD IN THE GYMNASIUM AND AEROBICS ROOMS; THE REASON WAS DUE TO THE WELLNESS CENTER PEOPLE NOT KNOWING EXACTLY WHAT THEY WANTED ON THE FLOOR IN TERMS OF CUSHION FOR PEOPLE EXERCISING, ETC. MARY LASSITER'S, USDA, RECOMMENDATION INDICATES SHE DISCUSSED THE PROJECT WITH CARR ENGINEERING AND THEY HAVE MADE A COMMITMENT TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THE BASE BID PLUS THE ALTERNATES AND A GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE; MARY HAS AGREED WITH CARR ENGINEERING A 5% VALUE ENGINEERING CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED ON THE PROJECT WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE QUALITY OF THE BUILDING. SHE IS RECOMMENDING CARR ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BE AWARDED THE BID WITH THEIR BASE BID INCLUDING THE ALTERNATES BEING \$1,024,500 BUT DUE TO MARY AND THE CONTRACTOR BOTH AGREEING THEY CAN ACCOMPLISH 5% VALUE ENGINEERING, DROP THE AWARD AMOUNT TO \$973,275.00. THIS AMOUNT WILL COVER SWITCHING FROM SHINGLE ROOF TO STANDARD SEAM, COVER ALL THE PHONE SYSTEMS AND FIRE ALARMS AND INCLUDE \$30.00 A SQUARE YARD FOR THE GYMNASIUM AND AEROBICS ROOMS FOR THE OFFICE COMPLEX. KNAUER ADVISED THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE ORDERS UNLESS THE COUNTY CHANGES THE SCOPE OF WORK. KNAUER ADDRESSED AN INTENT TO AWARD WAS LIKE A A CONDITIONAL AWARD SO THEY CAN SAY AS LONG AS CARR FOLLOWS THESE CONDITIONS, THE AWARD WILL BE ACCEPTED WITH ONE OF THE CONDITIONS BEING 5% VALUE ENGINEERING, A GUARANTEED PRICE AND THE INCLUSION OF THE THREE ALTERNATES. AS LONG AS THERE IS A CONDITIONAL AWARD APPROVED, THE BOARD SHOULDN'T HAVE TO MEET AGAIN FOR THE AWARD AND USDA IS IN AGREEMENT WITH THIS.

COMMISSIONER HALL OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ENFINGER AND CARRIED TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS MOTION AND AWARD THE BID TO CARR ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY CONTINGENT ON NO CHANGE ORDERS UNLESS THE SCOPE OF WORK CHANGES; 5% VALUE ENGINEERING, GUARANTEED PRICE BY CONTRACTOR, INCLUSION OF THE THREE ALTERNATES AND UPON FINAL APPROVAL BY USDA.

COMMISSIONER ENFINGER OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CARRIED TO ADJOURN. ATTEST:_____

CLERK
ATTEST:_____
DEPUTY CLERK

CHAIRMAN

END OF MINUTES FOR 04/06/01