

BOARD MINUTES FOR 08/05/03

AUGUST 5, 2003

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, 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 CORBIN, COPE, BROCK, FINCH AND HALL PRESENT. ADMINISTRATOR PETER HERBERT, ATTORNEY GERALD HOLLEY, CLERK LINDA COOK AND DEPUTY CLERK DIANNE CARTER WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY UPDATED THE BOARD ON THE LEGISLATION AMENDING FL STATUTE 95.361 WHICH DEALS WITH HOW THE COUNTY REQUIRES RIGHTS TO MAINTAIN DIRT ROADS; THEY ELIMINATED THE REQUIREMENT OF THE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE ROAD. THE COUNTY WILL NO LONGER HAVE TO PROVE INITIAL CONSTRUCTION BUT WILL HAVE TO PROVE SEVEN YEARS OF CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE ON THE ROAD.

HE THEN PROVIDED CERTIFICATION ON FIVE ROADS IN THE COUNTY THAT ARE INVOLVED WITH CONTROVERSY AND REQUESTED THE BOARD GET A COPY OF ALL THE DIRT ROADS IN THEIR DISTRICT THEY CAN PROVE THEY HAVE MAINTAINED FOR SEVEN YEARS. HE REQUESTED THE BOARD ADOPT THE CERTIFICATION ON JAMES POTTER ROAD, ROCKY LANDING ROAD, HENRY LANE, HOLMES VALLEY ROAD, BELL COMMUNITY ROAD AND BRUNSON LANDING ROAD.

HE EXPLAINED THE STATUTE REQUIRES THE FILING OF A MAP IN THE CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT'S OFFICE WITH AN ATTACHMENT CERTIFYING THE ROADS IDENTIFIED ON IT HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED BY THE COUNTY FOR MAINTENANCE PURPOSES BY VIRTUE OF FL STATUTE 95-361; THIS WILL PUT THE BURDEN ON THE OTHER PARTY TO PROVE THEY ARE NOT COUNTY ROADS.

COMMISSIONER HALL OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROCK TO ADOPT THE CERTIFICATION ON THE ROADS RECOMMENDED BY ATTORNEY HOLLEY. ATTORNEY HOLLEY QUESTIONED IF THERE WERE WITNESSES WHO COULD TESTIFY THE COUNTY HAS MAINTAINED THESE ROADS FOR SEVEN CONTINUOUS YEARS. THE BOARD ADVISED THE DAILY WORK SHEETS AT PUBLIC WORKS COULD VERIFY THE COUNTY HAS MAINTAINED THEM FOR THIS LENGTH OF TIME.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED ONE ITEM IN THE LAWSUIT THAT IS NOT COVERED BY THIS CERTIFICATION IS THE ONE AREA WHERE DIRT WAS STORED; HE QUESTIONED IF THIS DIRT HAD BEEN MOVED. COMMISSIONER BROCK ADVISED IT HAD BEEN MOVED.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

JUDGE COLBY PEEL ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON HIS REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE CURRENT CONTRACT WITH SALVATION ARMY. HE INTRODUCED ROBIN HATCHER, DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE 14TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, WHO HAD SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF TIME HELPING HIM PREPARE HIS PRESENTATION.

PEEL REQUESTED THE BOARD TERMINATE THEIR CONTRACT WITH SALVATION ARMY EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2003 AND ESTABLISH A WASHINGTON COUNTY PROBATION OFFICE; THE COUNTY CAN PROVIDE A COUNTY MAINTAINED PROBATION OFFICE THAT BETTER SERVES THE NEEDS OF THE CITIZENS OF THE COUNTY AND THE COURT SYSTEM AT LITTLE OR NO COST TO THE TAXPAYERS. HE REPORTED THAT JACKSON, GULF AND CALHOUN COUNTIES ARE ALREADY DOING THIS WITH GREAT SUCCESS AND RECOMMENDED THE BOARD SPEAK TO THE COMMISSIONERS IN THOSE COUNTIES ABOUT THEIR PROBATE PROGRAM.

PEEL THEN UPDATED THE BOARD ON THE CONTENTS OF THEIR CURRENT CONTRACT WITH THE SALVATION ARMY; SINCE HE TOOK OFFICE IN OCTOBER OF 2001 THERE HAD BEEN AN AVERAGE OF 248 CASES PER MONTH SUPERVISED BY THE SALVATION ARMY FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY AT \$45 PER MONTH WHICH IS TO BE PAID BY THE INDIVIDUALS; THIS EQUALS \$11,160 PER MONTH OR \$133,920 PER YEAR IF 100% OF THE MONEY WAS COLLECTED. HE ADVISED THE SALVATION ARMY'S AVERAGE COLLECTION RATE FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS HAS BEEN \$87,000.

HE REPORTED WASHINGTON COUNTY HAVING PAID \$10,609 TO THE SALVATION ARMY FOR THEIR MONITORING COST; THESE COST CAN BE ELIMINATED IF THE BOARD ESTABLISHES A WASHINGTON COUNTY PROBATION OFFICE.

HE THEN ASKED MS. HATCHER TO GIVE THE BOARD MEMBERS A COPY OF THE PROJECTED BUDGET FOR MISDEMEANOR PROBATION FOR FY 2003-2004 SHE HAD PREPARED; THE PROPOSED BUDGET TOTALS \$78,426 AND THIS INCLUDES START UP COST THAT SHOULD NOT HAVE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FUTURE BUDGETS.

HE REPORTED THE SALVATION ARMY HAD PROVIDED HIM DOCUMENTATION SHOWING THEY COLLECTED \$88,902 FROM MARCH 2002 TO FEBRUARY 2003 WITH THEIR TOTAL EXPENDITURES TOTALLING \$71,545; THEY HAD MADE A PROFIT OF \$17,357. HE SAID IT WAS HIS OPINION THIS WAS MONIES THAT COULD BE RETURNED TO THE TAXPAYERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY.

HE THEN ADDRESSED IF THE COUNTY HAD THEIR OWN MISDEMEANOR PROBATION PROGRAM, THEY COULD START A PRE-TRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM WHICH ALLOWS OFFENDERS WHO QUALIFY TO BE RELEASED FROM JAIL WHILE AWAITING DISPOSITION OF THEIR CASE. HE UPDATED THE BOARD ON HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS AND REFERENCED JACKSON COUNTY HAVING HAD THE PROGRAM FOR OVER TWELVE YEARS. IF THE PRE-TRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED, PEEL ADVISED THE SAVINGS TO THE COUNTY COULD BE UNLIMITED AS WELL AS THE BENEFIT TO THE SOCIETY.

PEEL ADDRESSED HIM HAVING ONLY ADDRESSED MONEY THUSFAR; HOWEVER, HE IS NOT ASKING THEM TO ESTABLISH A WASHINGTON COUNTY PROBATION OFFICE FOR MONEY. HE STATED WASHINGTON COUNTY DESERVES MORE THAN WHAT THEY ARE CURRENTLY GETTING FROM THE SALVATION ARMY. HE THEN LISTED REASONS FOR THE BOARD TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING THEIR OWN PROBATION OFFICE:

1. WASHINGTON COUNTY IS THE ONLY COUNTY IN THE CIRCUIT THAT DOES NOT HAVE A FULL TIME PROBATION OFFICE; SALVATION ARMY OFFICE IS OPEN TWO DAYS A WEEK
2. CURRENTLY THE SALVATION ARMY DOES NOT PROVIDE ADEQUATE RESOURCES TO WASHINGTON COUNTY TO ALLOW THEIR EMPLOYEES TO DO ANYTHING MORE THAN COLLECT FINES; IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO SUPERVISE 248 WASHINGTON COUNTY CASES FROM HOLMES COUNTY
3. IT IS UNFAIR AND INCONVENIENT FOR PROBATIONERS WHO LIVE IN WASHINGTON COUNTY TO HAVE TO TRAVEL TO HOLMES COUNTY TO REPORT IN TO PAY FINES AND COSTS. MANY OF THEM HAVE LIMITED FUNDING AND DON'T HAVE ADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION
4. HE REFERENCED THERE BEING A NUMBER OF JURY TRIALS ON SOME DAYS AND SEVERAL DEFENDANTS DECIDED WHEN IT WAS TIME TO GO TO TRIAL THEY WANTED TO ENTER A PLEA; THE PLEAS WERE TAKEN AND THE INDIVIDUALS WERE TOLD THEY WOULD HAVE TO REPORT TO HOLMES COUNTY; THE INDIVIDUALS WERE NOT HAPPY. HE THEN ADVISED THEY CONTACTED HOLMES COUNTY AND THEY DID SEND AN EMPLOYEE OVER TO MEET WITH SOME OF THE INDIVIDUALS.
5. WHEN INDIVIDUALS ARE TOLD THEY HAVE TO REPORT TO HOLMES COUNTY, SOME OF THEM NEVER REPORT IN, NEVER PAY THEIR FINES OR FEES; THIS MAY BE PART OF THE REASON SALVATION ARMY'S COLLECTION RATES ARE THE WAY THEY ARE.
6. CURRENTLY FINES, COST AND RESTITUTION ARE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE SALVATION ARMY; IF THE COUNTY ESTABLISHED A PROBATION OFFICE, THESE WILL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE CLERKS OFFICE AND WILL BE MORE CONVENIENTLY AVAILABLE RATHER THAN RECEIVING PERIODIC PAYMENTS FROM THE SALVATION ARMY
7. EFFECTIVE JULY 2004, THE LAW REQUIRES THE CLERK TO COLLECT FINES, COST AND RESTITUTION.
8. BY UTILIZING A CASE MANAGEMENT APPROACH, ONE PROBATION OFFICER CAN EFFECTIVELY SUPERVISE MORE CASES BY PLUGGING

OFFENDERS INTO NEEDED RESOURCES THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY AND HAVE THE RESOURCES REPORT BACK ON A REGULAR BASIS. RATHER THAN HAVE THE OFFENDERS DO THEIR COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS TO BENEFIT A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, PEEL STATED HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE WASHINGTON COUNTY PROBATION OFFICE WORK HAND IN HAND WITH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO MAKE SURE WASHINGTON COUNTY BENEFITS FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS THE COURT ORDERS

9. A MONTHLY REPORT OF ALL PROBATIONERS TO BE FORWARDED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT WHO CAN ASSIST BY REPORTING OFFENDERS THEY FIND IN VIOLATION OF THEIR COURT ORDERS

IN SUMMARY, PEEL STATED HE WAS BASICALLY SAYING A COUNTY OPERATED MISDEMEANOR PROBATION PROGRAM WOULD PROVIDE BETTER SUPERVISION, BETTER PROTECTION FOR THE COMMUNITY AND BETTER COLLECTION OF FINES AND RESTITUTION.

HE ADDRESSED HIM BEING AWARE SOME OF THE BOARD HAD PROBABLY BEEN CONTACTED BY THE SALVATION ARMY EXPRESSING THEIR CONCERN ABOUT LOSING WASHINGTON COUNTY AS THEY MAKE A LOT OF MONEY THROUGH THE PROGRAM; HOWEVER, THE BOARD'S JOB IS NOT TO MAKE THE SALVATION ARMY HAPPY OR HIM HAPPY BUT TO DO WHAT IS BEST FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON CONCERNS WITH WHERE THE START UP MONIES WOULD COME FROM TO GET THE MISDEMEANOR PROBATION PROGRAM UNDERWAY. PEEL REFERENCED THE MONIES PAID TO THE SALVATION ARMY FOR ELECTRONIC MONITORING WOULD BE SAVED; AS FAR AS SPACE THAT WOULD BE NEEDED, HE ADVISED THERE WAS SOME OFFICE SPACE IN THE COURTHOUSE THAT COULD BE UTILIZED.

PEEL ADDRESSED HE WOULD LIKE TO STAFF THE OFFICE WITH TWO FULL TIME POSITIONS AND WOULD LIKE FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY MISDEMEANOR PROBATE PROGRAM TO BEGIN OCTOBER 1, 2003.

PEEL INFORMED THE BOARD OF THE FEES SALVATION ARMY COLLECTED FROM OFFENDERS AT THE RATE THE SALVATION ARMY IS COLLECTING; PEEL HOPED THE WASHINGTON COUNTY PROGRAM WOULD HAVE A BETTER COLLECTION RATE THAN THE SALVATION ARMY.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED HIS CONCERN WITH THE PEOPLE THAT ARE WORKING FOR THE SALVATION ARMY THAT IS FROM WASHINGTON COUNTY. PEEL ADVISED HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE WHOMEVER IS HIRED TO BE FROM WASHINGTON COUNTY.

THE BOARD REQUESTED JUDGE PEEL COME UP WITH A FIGURE ON THE AMOUNT OF START UP COST THAT WOULD BE NEEDED. THE CHAIRMAN INSTRUCTED THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR PUT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY MISDEMEANOR PROBATE PROGRAM ON THE AGENDA FOR AUGUST.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN REQUESTED COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT AND DEPUTY CLERK CARTER BRING THE BOARD UP TO DATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2003-2004. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADDRESSED THE BOARD BEING PROVIDED WITH COPIES OF BUDGET NOTES FOR THIS DATE WHICH SPECIFIED IF THE CHANGES THE BOARD HAD INSTRUCTED BE MADE WERE DONE, THE DEFICIT WOULD STILL BE \$60,754 FOR THE GENERAL FUND. (THE CHANGE WAS TAKING 1.5% FROM THOSE BUDGETS THAT DID NOT CUT ANYTHING WHEN THEY WERE ASKED TO CUT 7.5% FROM THEIR BUDGETS) SHE ALSO REFERENCED THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR WAS CONTACTING DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PICTOMETRY WHICH WOULD TAKE APPROXIMATELY \$36,000 OFF THIS DEFICIT. CHAIRMAN CORBIN QUESTIONED IF THERE WAS ANYTHING IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF CHIPLEY RECREATION PROGRAM; DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THERE WAS NOT.

JIM MORRIS ADDRESSED THE BOARD TO TELL THEM HOW THEY COULD ASSIST THE CITY OF CHIPLEY WITH THEIR RECREATION PROGRAM. HE REQUEST- ED THE COMMISSIONERS TAKE MONIES FROM THEIR DISTRICT MONIES AND ALLOCATE IT TO THE PAVING OF COLEMAN AVENUE; THE CITY OF CHIPLEY WOULD THEN TAKE THE MONIES THEY ALLOCATED TOWARD THE PAVING OF COLEMAN AVENUE AND PUT IT TOWARD RECREATION. MORRIS ADVISED THE PAVING WOULD BE LESS THAN .2 OF A MILE AND HE DIDN'T FEEL THERE WOULD BE A PROBLEM WITH THE COUNTY SPENDING TRANSPORTATION MONIES PAVING A STREET INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF CHIPLEY.

COMMISSIONER HALL VOICED HIM NOT WANTING TO SET A PRECEDENCE BY PAVING INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF CHIPLEY AND THEN VERNON, WAUSAU, CARYVILLE, ETC. WANTING THE BOARD TO PAVE STREETS FOR THEM. HE ALSO ADDRESSED IF THE BOARD WERE TO GET THE LEGISLATION TO PASS A ONE CENT SALES TAX, ALL THE CITIES, INCLUDING CHIPLEY, WOULD GET A PORTION OF THESE MONIES. HE ALSO VOICED HIS OPINION HE WOULD BE OPPOSED TO PASSING A ONE CENT SALES TAX JUST FOR RECREATION AS BAD AS ROAD PAVING IS NEEDED. HE REFERENCED JACKSON COUNTY HAVING IMPLEMENTED A ONE CENT SALES TAX FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND BUILT IT UP UNTIL THEY ARE JUST USING THE INTEREST TO PAVE EVERY YEAR.

MORRIS ADDRESSED ONE HALF CENT SALES TAX PLEDGED TOWARD RECREATION WOULD GENERATE MORE THAN ENOUGH TO FUND RECREATION FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

THE BOARD AGREED THEY WOULD HAVE TO LOOK AT COMMITTING TO THE OTHER MUNICIPALITIES IN THE COUNTY ALSO IF THEY COMMITTED TO THE CITY OF CHIPLEY. DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE BOARD CONTRIBUTING FUNDING FROM THEIR MATERIALS BUDGETS AN AMOUNT TO WHAT IT WOULD COST TO PAVE .2 MILE AND APPROPRIATE ACCORDING TO POPULATION TO THE OTHER MUNICIPALITIES IN THE COUNTY. COMMISSIONER HALL STATED HE WOULD AGREE TO THIS CONTINGENT ON ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISING THE BOARD THEY COULD USE TRANSPORTATION MONIES WITHIN INCORPORATED AREAS OF THE COUNTY.

COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROCK AND CARRIED TO GET THE COUNTY ENGINEER TO LOOK AT COLEMAN AVENUE AND PROVIDE AN ESTIMATE TO THE BOARD ON THE COST FOR PAVING. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED MORRIS THE BOARD WAS SORT OF COMMITTING TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PAVING OF .2 MILE ON COLEMAN AVENUE IF THE ATTORNEY ADVISES IT IS ALRIGHT TO SPEND TRANSPORTATION MONIES ON THE PAVING. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO CONTACT THE COUNTY ENGINEER TO LOOK AT COLEMAN AVENUE AND LET COMMISSIONER COPE KNOW WHEN KNAUER IS COMING.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON PICTOMETRY WITH CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKING IF THE BOARD WAS GOING TO ACCEPT ANY MORE MONIES FROM ORANGE HILL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT AS HE WAS SURE THEY WOULD CONTRIBUTE.

COMMISSIONER COPE VOICED HIS OPPOSITION TO ACCEPTING ANY FUNDING FROM ORANGE HILL SOIL CONSERVATION FOR THE POSITION AT THE AG CENTER; IFAS IS INVOLVED AND WILL BE THE ONE TO DECIDE WHO IS HIRED AT THE AG CENTER.

COMMISSIONER COPE ALSO STATED AS MANY EROSION PROBLEMS AS THE COUNTY HAS ON THEIR ROADS, IF SOIL CONSERVATION HAS MONIES THEY CAN SPEND, THEY SHOULD CORRECT THE EROSION PROBLEMS.

COMMISSIONER HALL ADVISED SOIL CONSERVATION IS ONLY SUPPOSE TO SPEND MONIES ON EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN REPORTED WALTERS HAD ADVISED HIM THAT MONIES SPENT ON ANY PROJECTS THEY DID WERE APPROVED BY THE ORANGE HILL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD; THEY USED PROFITS MADE OFF OF CONTRACTS THEY HAD WITH OTHER AGENCIES TO DO SOME OF THE BUILDINGS, ETC. BUT THESE WERE ALSO APPROVED BY THEIR BOARD. COMMISSIONER HALL SAID THE COUNTY EQUIPMENT AND LABOR MADE ALL OF THE PROFIT THAT WAS MADE ON THESE PROJECTS.

COMMISSIONER COPE VOICED HIS OPINION THE COUNTY WAS IN DIRECT COMPETITION WITH CONTRACTORS THAT COULD BE DOING THESE PROJECTS. COMMISSIONER HALL STATED CONTRACTORS COULD BE DOING THE PROJECTS OR THE BOARD COULD DO THE PROJECTS THEMSELVES AS THEY HAD DONE IN THE PAST PRIOR TO ORANGE HILL SOIL CONSERVATION.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED HIM BEING OBLIGATED TO DO A SHED AT SMITH LAKE AND WOULD LIKE FOR ORANGE HILL SOIL CONSERVATION TO COMPLETE THIS PROJECT.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN ADDRESSED HIM HAVING A COMMITMENT FROM WALTERS TO BUILD A SHED FOR THE PARK AND RECREATION EQUIPMENT TO PUT THEIR EQUIPMENT UNDER AND WOULD LIKE FOR THEM TO COMPLETE THIS PROJECT.

COMMISSIONER COPE VOICED HIS APPRECIATION FOR WHAT SOIL CONSERVATION HAS DONE FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY; HE REFERENCED THE MONEY THEY HAD SPENT AND THE COUNTY NOT HAVING A LOT OF THE BUILDINGS THEY DO IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR SOIL CONSERVATION.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED THE BOARD TO CONSIDER ORANGE HILL SOIL CONSERVATION SPENDING THEIR MONIES ON EROSION CONTROL PROJECTS IN THE FUTURE.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THE NEED FOR DITCH PAVING AND THIS IS A PROJECT OHSCD COULD DO.

COMMISSIONER HALL REITERATED IF THE COUNTY LABOR AND EQUIPMENT IS GOING TO BE USED, HE HAD RATHER THE COUNTY TAKE IT BACK OVER AND LET THE PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR BE IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECTS. HE THEN OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE TO APPROVE OF THE COUNTY TAKING BACK OVER THE WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECTS AND LETTING DAVID CORBIN, P & R DIRECTOR, BE IN CHARGE OF THEM. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF THE BOARD WOULD AGREE TO INCLUDE IN THE MOTION TO ALLOW SOIL CONSERVATION TO COMPLETE THE SHED AT SMITH LAKE AND THE PARK AND RECREATION SHED; COMMISSIONER HALL AND COPE AGREED TO A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE THIS IN THEIR MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO CONTACT WALTERS TO SEE IF HE WOULD BE WILLING TO FINISH THE TWO SHEDS.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT UPDATED THE BOARD ON BUDGET NOTE 3 ON PRESERVATION 2000; \$2,500 BUDGETED CAN BE TAKEN OUT DUE TO THE PROJECT NEEDING TO BE CLOSED OUT BY THE END OF AUGUST.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT THEN ADDRESSED HIM HAVING TALKED TO TODD ABBOTT WITH USSI ABOUT CUTTING THE JANITORIAL SERVICES. ABBOT HAD AGREED TO CUT THE TOTAL JANITORIAL CONTRACT BY 5% IF THE COUNTY LEAVES IT AS IS; IF THEY WANT TO CUT THE # OF DAYS, ABBOT ADVISED THERE WAS A FORMULA HE WOULD HAVE TO USE BECAUSE IT IS NOT JUST THE LABOR BUT THE MATERIALS, ETC. THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE FIGURED IN.

HERBERT THEN REPORTED THAT DAVID CORBIN HAD SAID HE COULD GET COUNTY INMATES TO CLEAN THE COUNTY ANNEX. DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE NEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS WITH THE JANITORIAL SERVICE THE COUNTY IS GETTING; COMMISSIONER COPE ADVISED IF THE BOARD CAN FUND THE JANITORIAL SERVICES, ABBOT NEEDS TO DO A BETTER JOB.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN REQUESTED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT READDRESS THE JANITORIAL SERVICES AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT THEN ADDRESSED THE RADIOS THE COUNTY IS PAYING FOR, THE COST PER MONTH FOR THIS SERVICE AND WHO HAS THE RADIOS.

COMMISSIONER BROCK REFERENCED THERE BEING TWO WOMEN FROM EMERG- ENCY MANAGEMENT CHECKING OUT RADIO COMMUNICATIONS IN CERTAIN SPOTS IN HIS DISTRICT; HE HAD PREVIOUSLY MADE IT CLEAR HE WOULD BE THE ONE TAKING A RADIO AND DOING THE CHECKING IN HIS DISTRICT. HE VOICED HIS OPINION THAT NO OFFICE SHOULD INITIATE CHANGING RADIO SERVICE; THINGS OF THIS NATURE NEEDS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AND THE BOARD NEEDS TO DETERMINE IF THERE NEEDS TO BE A CHANGE. CHAIRMAN CORBIN REQUESTED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT, IF THIS IS GOING ON, TO ADVISE WHOMEVER TO ADDRESS THIS WITH THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE.

THE BOARD ADDRESSED PROPOSED BUDGET CUTS FOR TRANSPORTATION AND CONSENTED FOR THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO BE MADE:

1. BRIDGE MATERIALS	REDUCE BY \$30,000	\$20,000	
2. GAS	REDUCE BY \$45,000	\$175,000	
3. OTHER SIGNS	REDUCE BY \$30,000	\$25,000	
4. BUILDING	REDUCE BY \$20,000	\$ 0	
5. SUPPLIES	REDUCE BY \$13,000	\$15,000	
6. OTHER CURRENT CHARGES	REDUCE BY \$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	
7. PRINTING & BINDING	REDUCE BY \$500	\$ 500	
8. PARTS	REDUCE BY \$3,000	\$ 2,500	
9. UTILITIES	REDUCE BY \$5,000	\$13,500	10.
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	REDUCE BY \$5,000	\$35,000	11. GENERAL SHOP
REDUCE BY \$11,480	\$40,000		REDUCE BY
\$5,420	\$68,093		

WHEN QUESTIONED ON CONTINGENCY FOR PUBLIC WORKS, DEPUTY CLERK CARTER EXPLAINED THERE WAS NO CONTINGENCY AND REITERATED IF ALL THE 2002-2003 BUDGET WAS NOT SPENT, THERE WOULD BE MONIES AVAILABLE FOR CONTINGENCY.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER EXPLAINED THE DEFICIT IN THE GENERAL FUND COULD BE MORE IF THE BUDGETS WERE NOT REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT SHOWN ON THE PRINTOUTS THEY WERE PROVIDED; BUDGETS THAT DID NOT CUT THE 7.5% AS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED BY THE BOARD, WERE CUT 1.5% PER BOARD ACTION.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON HEALTH INSURANCE WITH DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISING NO INFORMATION HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY ALLAN CLARK, INSURANCE AGENT, ON THE 2003-2004 PREMIUMS; SHE ALSO REMINDED THE BOARD THE HEALTH INSURANCE LINE ITEM HAD BEEN FUNDED WITH A 10% INCREASE BUT IT WAS ALSO CUT BACK BY THE 1.5%.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ALSO ADDRESSED THE OTHER LEGAL FEES HAVING BEEN CUT TO \$50,000.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON ENGINEERING SERVICE EXPENSES. THE BOARD AGREED FOR THE COMMISSIONERS TO WORK TOGETHER ON SCHEDULING ENGINEERING SERVICES IN ORDER TO TRY AND REDUCE COST. THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS FOR ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO WRITE THE COUNTY ENGINEER A LETTER ASKING HIM TO SCHEDULE THE WORK NEEDED BY EACH COMMISSIONER TO ASSIST WITH REDUCING THE ENGINEERING COST DUE TO BUDGET RESTRAINTS.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER UPDATED THE BOARD ON THE COST TO IMPLEMENT THE LONGEVITY PAY INCREASES AT \$.05 PER YEAR AND AT \$.10 PER YEAR AT 5, 10, 15, 20 AND 25 YEAR INTERVALS; \$.10 PER YEAR WOULD COST \$112,463.10 AND \$.05 PER YEAR WOULD COST \$56,231.56 INCLUDING BENEFITS.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THE BOARD THERE WOULD BE A BUDGET AMENDMENT PREPARED FOR THEIR NEXT BOARD MEETING TO TAKE CARE OF THE SALARY LINE ITEM IN THE VETERANS SERVICE BUDGET DUE TO DALE MACUMBER RETIRING AND RECEIVING HIS ACCRUED LEAVE TIME.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT ADDRESSED RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO LOOK AT EMPLOYEE SALARIES:

1. DO AWAY WITH CURRENT PAY SCALE
2. ADOPT BASE PAY AND NOT INCLUDE IN IT THE 3% OCTOBER 1ST RAISE; REVIEW THE BASE PAY NEXT BUDGET YEAR TO SEE IF THERE NEEDS TO BE AN INCREASE
3. DO AWAY WITH PAY INCREASES FOR PRIOR EXPERIENCE AND START NEW HIRES AT BASE PAY
4. DO AWAY WITH POLICY TO PAY HIGHER WAGES WHEN AN EMPLOYEE WORKS MORE THAN FOUR CONSECUTIVE HOURS IN A HIGHER PAID POSITION

ALSO, HERBERT REPORTED THE COMMITTEE HAD DISCUSSED RECATEGORIZING EQUIPMENT OPERATOR CLASSIFICATIONS TO HEAVY EQUIPMENT AND LIGHT EQUIPMENT OPERATORS.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE NEED TO PURCHASE SAWS TO PUT ON THE MOWERS. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED THE BUSH CUTTER OPERATOR BEING JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE DUMP TRUCK DRIVER, GRADER OPERATOR, ETC.

CLERK LINDA COOK INFORMED THE BOARD THE START UP COST FOR THE MISDEMEANOR PROBATION PROGRAM COULD POSSIBLY BE FUNDED THROUGH THE COURT FACILITY FUND. SHE THEN EXCUSED HERSELF FROM THE MEETING.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET DEFICIT OF \$60,754 IF EVERYONE AGREED TO THE 1.5% CUT THAT WAS IN THE BUDGET PRINTOUT THEY WERE PROVIDED.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE NEED TO TALK TO ALL DEPARTMENTS ABOUT THEIR UTILITIES. COMMISSIONER HALL SUGGESTED CHECKING INTO PURCHASING BIG OVERHEAD FANS THAT WATER RUNS THROUGH FOR ANY FACILITY THAT HAS BIG OPEN AREAS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED CHECKING ON USING REMOTE WOOD HEATERS RATHER THAN ELECTRIC HEAT.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER CAUTIONED THE BOARD AGAIN ABOUT USING ALL OF THEIR CASH CARRY FORWARD TO BALANCE THE BUDGET AS EACH YEAR IT WILL BECOME MORE DIFFICULT TO BALANCE THEIR BUDGET AND THE RESERVE FUNDS WILL BE FULLY EXPENDED.

COMMISSIONER BROCK QUESTIONED WHERE PICTOMETRY WAS BEING FUNDED. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED HIM IT WAS PRESENTLY BEING PAID OUT OF THE GENERAL FUND. DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS FUNDING IT LAST YEAR; COMMISSIONER BROCK SUGGESTED EACH OF THE BOARD GIVE MONIES OUT OF THEIR

MATERIALS BUDGET THIS YEAR TO PAY FOR PICTOMETRY TO TRY AND HELP BALANCE THE GENERAL FUND.

COMMISSIONER COPE AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD PICTOMETRY THE SAME AS LAST YEAR. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THE ROAD MATERIALS BUDGET WAS NOT BROKEN DOWN ON THEIR PRINTOUT AS THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT KEEPS TRACK OF THIS; HOWEVER, THE TOTAL AMOUNT SPENT TO DATE WAS \$211,767.14 WITH THERE ONLY BEING \$14,000 LEFT IN ALL. COMMISSIONER BROCK STATED SOMETHING WAS NOT RIGHT WITH THESE FIGURES AND REQUESTED DEPUTY CLERK CARTER CONTACT DEBBIE RILEY AT PUBLIC WORKS TO VERIFY THE BALANCE.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THE BOARD THEY NEEDED TO GET WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS TO SEE IF THEY WOULD AGREE TO THE CUTS AND IF THEY WERE GOING TO APPEAL THE PROPERTY APPRAISER'S BUDGET, THEY WOULD NEED TO DO SO PRIOR TO AUGUST 14TH. THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS FOR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SEND A LETTER TO EVERYONE THAT WAS CUT 1.5% ADVISING THEM THE BOARD WAS GOING TO CUT AND ADJUST THEIR BUDGETS ACCORDINGLY.

COMMISSIONER BROCK REQUESTED, WITH THE BOARD CONSENTING, FOR ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO NOTIFY GOVERNOR BUSH OF THE BOARD'S INTENT TO JOIN WITH HOLMES COUNTY ON A REQUEST FOR THE LEGISLATURE TO REVIEW A REPORT, INCLUDING SHORT TERM FINANCIAL AID TO THE COUNTIES THAT HAVE A SERIOUS NEED FOR ASSISTANCE; ALSO TO CONVENE A FORUM PRIOR TO NEXT YEAR'S LEGISLATIVE SESSION TO WORK WITH THE APPROPRIATE PARTIES TO PROPOSE A LONG TERM SOLUTION TO HELPING SMALL COUNTIES.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED MR. J. T. HARRELL BEING UPSET WITH AN ARTICLE THAT CAME OUT IN THE NEWSPAPER AND FELT THE COUNTY HAD TERMINATED HIS TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT BECAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT HE WAS INVOLVED WITH. HE REQUESTED, WITH THE BOARD CONSENTING, ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT WRITE MR. HARRELL A LETTER EXPRESSING THE BOARD'S APPRECIATION FOR THE WORK HE DONE AND ASSURE HIM THEY DID NOT TERMINATE HIS EMPLOYMENT DUE TO THE ACCIDENT BUT DUE TO BUDGET RESTRAINTS.

COMMISSIONER HALL ADDRESSED AN EMPLOYEE GETTING RELIEVED FROM PARK AND RECREATION AND GOING TO A PICKUP DRIVER AT PUBLIC WORKS; HE TOLD THE BOARD THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FIRE ANOTHER PERSON SINCE THEY TRANSFERRED THE EMPLOYEE TO ANOTHER COUNTY POSITION AFTER THE EMPLOYEE COMMITTED A THIRD DEGREE FELONY. (FILLING OUT A FALSE ACCIDENT REPORT)

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE SONNY BALKOM'S SON UNTIL JACOB STRICKLAND RETURNS FROM NATIONAL GUARD DUTY AS HE DID NOT HAVE AN INMATE CREW AT THIS THIS TIME. COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HALL AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF CORBIN'S REQUEST.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT REPORTED TO THE BOARD A LIST OF CHARGES 911 DIRECTOR, JERRY BROCK, HAD PROVIDED FOR PEOPLE REQUESTING MAP DATA, PICTOMETRY PICTURES AND 911 RECORDING TAPES:

COST	ITEM
\$3.00	8 1/2 X 11 MAP USING REGULAR PRINTER (JUST PLAIN ROADS, LAKES, ETC.-NO PICTOMETRY
\$10.00	36" X48" WALL MAP USING PLOTTER (JUST PLAIN ROADS, LAKES, ETC-NO PICTOMETRY
\$10.00	8 1/2 X 11 MAP USING REGULAR PRINTER (PICTOMETRY MAP)
\$30.00	17" X 22" (PICTOMETRY MAP USING PLOTTER)
\$50.00	34" X 44" (PICTOMETRY MAP USING PLOTTER)
\$60.00	ANY ODD SIZE PLOTTER MAP OF PICTOMETRY IMAGES THAT CUSTOMER REQUESTS UP TO A MAXIMUM SIZE OF 36" X 48"
\$1,500	BASIC DIGITAL MAP DATA ONE TIME FEE-NO UPDATES (COUNTY OR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES)
\$4,800	DIGITAL MAP DATA MANIPULATED BY 911 OFFICE PER END USER REQUEST WITH UPDATES SUPPLIED MONTHLY FOR ONE YEAR (COUNTY OR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES)

\$10,000 DIGITAL MAP DATA ONE TIME FEE-NO UPDATES
(PRIVATE VENDORS, CONTRACTORS, & ALL OTHERS
WHO COULD POSSIBLY USE DATA FOR RESALE)
\$10.00 9-1-1 TAPE RECORDINGS (THIS CHARGE WOULD
APPLY TO ALL BUT EMERGENCY SERVICE AGENCIES)

COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HALL AND CARRIED TO ADOPT THE PRICES.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER INFORMED THE BOARD OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR A BRIEFING MEETING ON THE NEW POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD AND QUESTIONED THE COUNTY COMMISSION MEMBERS WHAT A GOOD DATE WOULD BE TO HOLD THE MEETING. THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS FOR DEPUTY CLERK CARTER TO SCHEDULE THE MEETING FOR AUGUST 19 WITH HER AGREEING TO ADVERTISE THE MEETING FOR THAT DATE.

WHEN QUESTIONED BY COMMISSIONER COPE ON THE CHANGES, DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THERE WERE POLICY CHANGES PERTAINING TO THE PETITIONER HAVING TO PROVIDE THE DOCUMENTATION HE IS GOING TO PRESENT TO THE VAB TO THE PROPERTY APPRAISER; THE PROPERTY APPRAISER WILL HAVE TO PROVIDE HIS DOCUMENTATION TO THE PETITIONER; THE TIME FRAME FOR THE PETITIONERS TO RECEIVE THEIR NOTIFICATION CHANGED AND THE PETITIONER HAS THE RIGHT TO RESCHEDULE THEIR HEARING ONE TIME IF THEY CAN'T MEET AT THE SCHEDULED TIME.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT ADVISED HE WAS STILL WAITING TO HEAR FROM THE BOARD ON THE ADVERTISING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES:

1. PARK AND RECREATION ORDINANCE
2. CODE ENFORCEMENT

COMMISSIONER BROCK STATED HE WAS DISSATISFIED WITH THE PARK AND RECREATION ORDINANCE AS IT DID NOT ALLOW FOR CAMPING AND THERE WERE OTHER ISSUES THAT NEEDED ADDRESSING. THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS TO DISCUSS THE ORDINANCES AT THEIR NEXT BOARD MEETING.

COMMISSIONER BROCK OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE AND CARRIED TO ADJOURN. ATTEST:_____

DEPUTY CLERK

CHAIRMAN

END OF MINUTES FOR 08/05/03