

BOARD MINUTES FOR 07/29/03

JULY 29, 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, FINCH AND BROCK PRESENT. ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT, CLERK LINDA COOK AND DEPUTY CLERK DIANNE CARTER WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT ADDRESSED:

- A. AN INVOICE TOTALLING \$5,101.05 FROM SACRED HEART WHICH HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE INDIGENT COMMITTEE. DISCUSSION WAS HELD WITH CHAIRMAN CORBIN VOICING HIS OPINION IF THE INVOICE WAS INVESTIGATED PROPERLY, THE BOARD PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE TO PAY IT. COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE INDIGENT COMMITTEE AND PAY THE INVOICE. COMMISSIONER CORBIN OPPOSED.
- B. PER BOARD ACTION, HERBERT HAD CONTACTED GARY CLARK ABOUT BEING GRIEVANCE OFFICER FOR COUNTY ON TWO GRIEVANCES FILED; CLARK DECLINED BUT RECOMMENDED RICKY MARTIN. MARTIN HAD AGREED TO SERVE AS GRIEVANCE OFFICER IF HIS BOSS WILL GIVE HIM PERMISSION. COMMISSIONER FINCH OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF MARTIN BEING THE HEARING OFFICER CONTINGENT ON HIM ACCEPTING IT.
- C. HERBERT ADVISED THE BOARD THEY NEEDED TO KEEP TRACK OF THEIR MILEAGE FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST FOR BOARD FINANCE.
- D. EXEMPT EMPLOYEES WILL BE ASKED TO TRACK THEIR COMPENSATORY TIME FOR THE ENTIRE MONTH OF AUGUST FOR THE BOARD TO REVIEW.
- E. COMMISSIONER CORBIN HAD REQUESTED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT WRITE A LETTER TO SOIL CONSERVATION REQUESTING \$10,000 FOR FUNDING OF THE HALF POSITION FOR THE AG CENTER; DON WALTERS HAD ADVISED CORBIN THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO FUND IT BUT THE BOARD WOULD NEED TO REQUEST THE FUNDING. AFTER CONTACTING COMMISSIONERS, TWO OF THEM WERE OKAY WITH HIM SENDING THE LETTER AND ONE WANTED TO HOLD OFF.
- F. DON WALTERS HAD BROUGHT RENEWAL CONTRACT BETWEEN BOARD AND SOIL CONSERVATION FOR INMATE CREW TO ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT; HE AGREED TO ADDRESS THIS AT THE AUGUST BOARD MEETING.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED EMERGENCY WORK NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THE PAVING THAT WAS DONE ON MUD HILL ROAD; PUBLIC WORKS IS ASKING AUTHORIZATION FOR ALL CREWS TO PARTICIPATE TO GET THE ROAD SODDED. DISCUSSION WAS HELD WITH THE BOARD REQUESTING DAVID CORBIN, PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR, SEE IF SOD CAN BE CUT AT THE OLD BEEF UNIT PROPERTY OR IF IT IS TOO WET AND REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD.

JIM MORRIS, REPRESENTING THE CITY OF CHIPLEY, ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON HIS PREVIOUS REQUEST FOR THEM TO ASSIST WITH THE CITY'S RECREATION PROGRAM DUE TO THE PERCENTAGE OF AD VALOREM TAXES THE CITY RESIDENTS PAY AND RECEIVE NOTHING IN RETURN. HE REITERATED THE CITY NOT BEING ABLE TO FUND THE BUDGET THIS YEAR LIKE THEY HAVE BEEN DOING IN THE PAST AND ADDRESSED THE INCREASE OF PARTICIPATION IN THE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE CITY'S RECREATIONAL PROGRAM PROVIDING ORGANIZED AND CONTROLLED RECREATION AND THE NEED FOR THE BOARD TO ASSIST THEM IN SOME WAY.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THERE NEVER BEING A STABLE SOURCE OF FUNDING EARMARKED FOR RECREATION AND THE NEED FOR THE COUNTY TO FIND A PERMANENT SOURCE TO FUND ALL RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

WHEN QUESTIONED ON FUNDING FOR RECREATION IN THE COUNTY'S BUDGET, DEPUTY CLERK CARTER REPORTED THE BOARD FUNDED THE PARK AND RECREATION BUDGET FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE PARKS THEY HAD BUILT WITH GRANT FUNDING; SHE ALSO ADDRESSED THE INCREASE IN GENERAL FUND MONIES HAVING TO BE USED TO FUND THE PARK BUDGET DUE TO PORTALETTS, UTILITIES, ETC. AT THE PARK FACILITIES.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM TAKING A LOT OF KIDS OFF THE STREETS WHEN PROVIDING CONTROLLED RECREATION.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ITERATED THE BOARD HAVING NEVER EARMARKED A STABLE SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR RECREATION AND THE BOARD MIGHT NEED TO LOOK AT PASSING A ONE CENT SALES TAX TO FUND TOTAL RECREATION FOR THE COUNTY. HE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE AND CARRIED TO PUT ON THE BALLOT IN NOVEMBER A ONE CENT SALES TAX FOR RECREATION.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED ON MORRIS'S REQUEST FOR RECREATIONAL FUNDING FOR FY 2003-2004. MORRIS INFORMED THE BOARD THEY WOULD NEED TO TELL THE CITY WHAT TO CUT OUT OF THE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM IF THEY CAN'T CONTRIBUTE AND REITERATED THE CITY BEING UNABLE TO FUND THE PROGRAM AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST DUE TO GROWTH. HE ALSO ADDRESSED THE NEED FOR FOUR MORE BALLFIELDS TO PLAY ON NEXT YEAR.

JERRY BROCK QUESTIONED WHAT THE MAJOR EXPENSE OF THE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM WAS. MORRIS REPORTED SALARY EXPENSES OF \$65,000; THEY HAD SIX FIELDS TO MAINTAIN AND \$13,000 WILL HAVE TO GO TOWARD THE PURCHASE OF BLEACHERS THIS YEAR.

THE BOARD MADE MORRIS AWARE OF THE MAJOR DEFICIT IN THE GENERAL FUND WITH MORRIS STATING IF THEY COULD BALANCE THE DEFICIT, THEY COULD COME UP WITH THE \$25,000 HE IS REQUESTING.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE BOARD CONTRIBUTING SOME OF THEIR DISTRICT MONIES TO ASSIST THE CITY OF CHIPLEY RECREATION PROGRAM. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED TRANSPORTATION MONIES COULD NOT BE USED TO FUND RECREATION. MORRIS ADDRESSED THERE BEING A LOT OF WAYS MONIES COULD BE MOVED AROUND.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED WITH THE BOARD SUGGESTING MORRIS CONTACT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD FOR ASSISTANCE WITH THE CITY'S RECREATION PROGRAM.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED MORRIS IF HE HAD THE DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY THE CITY WOULD NEED AT THE OLD ROULHAC MIDDLE SCHOOL FOR THEIR NEW WELL SITE. MORRIS ADVISED THE COUNTY ENGINEER WAS SUPPOSE TO MEET WITH HIM TODAY TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED MORRIS THE BOARD WAS WILLING TO COMMIT TO DO THE BEST THEY COULD IN ASSISTING WITH THE CHIPLEY RECREATION PROGRAM.

DAVID CORBIN ADDRESSED THE BOARD TO REPORT, IF THEY COULD PROVIDE HIM WITH A LOW BOY DRIVER AND A CREW, HE COULD START CUTTING SOD AT THE OLD BEEF UNIT TO DO THE EMERGENCY WORK NEEDED ON MUD HILL ROAD. THE BOARD ADVISED CORBIN THEY WOULD PROVIDE WHATEVER HE NEEDED; CHAIR- MAN CORBIN AGREED TO GET HIS TRACTOR TO THE BEEF UNIT SITE FOR THEM TO USE.

JERRY BROCK, 911 COORDINATOR, UPDATED THE BOARD ON WASHINGTON COUNTY BEING ONE OF THE TEN COUNTIES IN FLORIDA THAT HAVE GONE TO FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION PHASE II; THIS IS WHERE 911 CAN NOW TRACK WHERE A PERSON IS LOCATED IF THEY CALL IN ON THEIR CELL PHONE FOR ASSISTANCE. HE DID STATE, AT THE PRESENT TIME, 911 COULD ONLY TRACK CELL PHONE CALLS WHO USE ALL-TELL SERVICE.

HE PROVIDED THE BOARD WITH INFORMATION ON COST ESTIMATES HE HAD RECEIVED TO INTERACT AND ADDRESSED IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS, IT WILL BE MANDATORY TO HAVE A CELL PHONE THAT WILL BE GPS COMPATIBLE AND WILL TRANSMIT TO 911 CALL TAKERS.

HE ADDRESSED HIS PRIMARY REVENUE RESOURCE BEING FROM THE \$.50 MONTHLY CHARGE ON EVERYONE'S TELEPHONE BILL; THE WIRE LINES THAT GENE- RATE THIS FEE IS SLOWLY DETERIORATING DUE TO MORE PEOPLE USING THE CELL PHONES.

HE ALSO ADDRESSED 911 DIRECTORS HAVING GONE TO THE WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS BOARD AND EXPRESSED THEIR DISSATISFACTION IN NOT BEING ABLE TO KNOW WHAT THEIR

MONTHLY REVENUE SOURCE WOULD BE DUE TO THE WIRE LINES SLOWLY GOING AWAY; THE WIRELESS BOARD AGREED TO PROVIDE A MATCHING SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT FOR SMALL COUNTIES WITH A POPULATION OF 75,000 OR LESS WHICH WOULD GUARANTEE THEM A MINIMUM OF \$3,000 A MONTH ON THE WIRELESS SYSTEM. BROCK STATED CURRENTLY HE IS PAYING \$4,041 EVERY MONTH TO BELL SOUTH FOR EQUIPMENT, DATA BASE, ETC; THE PROPOSED 911 MONTHLY CHARGES WILL BE \$5,758 OR AN INCREASE OF \$1,717 PER MONTH BY LEASING THE EQUIPMENT AND HAVING A 60 MONTH SERVICE AGREEMENT. IF THE COUNTY RECEIVED GRANT MONIES TO PURCHASE THE SYSTEM, HIS MONTHLY CHARGES WOULD BE DECREASED BY \$466; HOWEVER, THE GRANT MONIES DIDN'T COME THROUGH THIS YEAR.

IN ORDER TO GET THE WIRELESS ENHANCEMENTS INSTALLED, HE MET WITH THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD AND TOLD THEM HE DIDN'T HAVE THE FUNDING TO PAY THE INSTALLATION OF THE WIRELESS ENHANCEMENTS IN HIS BUDGET; HOWEVER HE COULD CONTINUE TO PAY THE MONTHLY SERVICE FEES UNTIL OCTOBER 2003. BROCK ADVISED THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD AGREED TO PAY THE INSTALLATION CHARGE OF \$22,725 OUT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS FUND.

BROCK ADDRESSED THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD LOOKING AT GOING WITH COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH ALSO.

HE ADDRESSED HIS PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2003-2004 HAVING GONE UP BY \$36,000 WHICH IS THE AMOUNT THE STATE WIRELESS BOARD IS GOING TO GIVE THEM; HE IS NOT SURE ANY OF THIS WILL COME TO PASS FOR ANOTHER SEVERAL MONTHS. HE ADVISED HE WOULD BE APPLYING FOR GRANTS FOR ANY APPLICABLE EXPENSES ACCORDING TO FLORIDA STATUTES TO COVER 911.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE 911 WIRELESS SYSTEM WITH COMMISSIONER BROCK QUESTIONING IF HE CALLED SOMEONE WITH A WIRELESS PHONE FROM HIS CELL PHONE, COULD THAT PERSON TELL WHERE THE CALL WAS COMING FROM. JERRY BROCK REITERATED THE NEW SYSTEM WOULD ALLOW 911 DISPATCH TO TRACK THE LOCATION OF SOMEONE CALLING IN ON A CELL PHONE; THE TRACKING ONLY APPLIED TO PERSONS CALLING IN TO 911.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED BUDGETS CONTINUING TO INCREASE AND QUESTIONED WHY BAY COUNTY AND OTHER COUNTIES WITH MUCH LARGER FUNDING SOURCES HAD NOT IMPLEMENTED THIS 911 WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY. JERRY REFERENCED BAY COUNTY BEING SPREAD OUT AND NOT HAVING THE GPS MAPPING COORDINATES.

COMMISSIONER BROCK THEN QUESTIONED WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN IF BAY COUNTY OR ANOTHER COUNTY DOESN'T HAVE THE NECESSARY MAPPING AND IT IS MANDATED THEY GO WITH THE 911 WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY IN A COUPLE OF YEARS. JERRY EXPLAINED THEY COULD GET SUED AND REFERENCED A CALL BEING PLACED TO THE BAY COUNTY 911 DISPATCH APPROXIMATELY FIVE YEARS AGO AND DUE TO THEM NOT HAVING THEIR MAPPING COORDINATES, DROWNINGS OCCURRED AND THEY WERE SUED.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN REQUESTED JERRY UPDATE THE BOARD ON HOW HE MAY MAKE MONEY FOR THE COUNTY. HE REPORTED HE HAD MADE THE COUNTY ABOUT \$10,000 ALREADY, EVEN THOUGH IT WASN'T IN DOLLARS, BY DOING THE MAPPING FOR THE NEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAPS AND FOR THE PRISON.

DISCUSSION WAS THEN HELD ON JERRY GENERATING FUNDS AND THE BOARD REQUESTED HE PROVIDE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR WITH A RECOMMENDED FEE SCHEDULE FOR 911 SERVICES PROVIDED; ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT WILL THEN ADDRESS IT WITH THE BOARD.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN CALLED FOR A RECESS.

PURSUANT TO A RECESS, DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADDRESSED THE BUDGET NOTES THAT HAD BEEN PROVIDED WHICH SHOWED A DEFICIT OF \$271,796 IN THE GENERAL FUND AND \$188,911 IN THE TRANSPORTATION FUND.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET DEFICITS WITH DEPUTY CLERK CARTER REPORTING THERE WAS NO WAY TO CUT THE 7.5% THE BOARD HAD REQUESTED BE CUT FROM EACH DEPARTMENT; SHE REFERENCED THE INSURANCE, POLLUTION CONTROL AND LANDFILL CLOSURE BUDGETS HAD INCREASED DRASTICALLY AND CAN'T BE CUT ANY.

COMMISSIONER BROCK QUESTIONED IF THERE WASN'T AN ADDITIONAL \$400,000 REVENUES GENERATED THIS YEAR. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADDRESSED THERE WAS AN INCREASE IN REVENUES BUT THEIR CASH CARRY FORWARD DECREASED AS IT HAS BEEN DOING OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. SHE ADVISED THE BOARD THEY NEEDED TO STOP BALANCING THEIR BUDGET WITH CASH CARRY FORWARD AS THESE MONIES ARE DEPLETING

RAPIDLY AND THEY NEED RESERVE FUNDS ON HAND. SHE TOLD THEM THEY MAY COULD BALANCE THEIR BUDGET TODAY WITH CASH CARRY FORWARD BUT CAUTIONED THEM WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT YEAR.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN REFERENCED HIM REMEMBERING WHEN THE COUNTY HAD TO BORROW START UP MONIES EACH YEAR UNTIL THEIR TAX MONIES STARTED TO COME IN.

CHERYL, REPRESENTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS, QUESTIONED IF THE BOARD BORROWED THE \$3.2 MILLION AND RECAPITALIZED ANOTHER LOAN, WASN'T THAT GOING TO DECREASE THE MONTHLY PAYMENTS. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THIS WAS CORRECT BUT THE BOARD HAD ALSO MADE A MOTION TO PUT THE DIFFERENCE IN A SEPARATE ACCOUNT IN CASE INTEREST RATES WENT UP. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER REFERENCED THE COUNTY OBLIGATING THEIR SALES TAX REVENUES TO REPAY THE LOAN AND WOULD BE UNABLE TO BORROW ANY MONIES FOR THE TERM OF THE LOAN.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED ON THE BUDGET DEFICIT, THE GROWTH IN THE COUNTY AND ALL THE DEPARTMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN ADDED OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED THE SHERIFF HAVING COME UP WITH \$200,000 ADDITIONAL REVENUE FOR THE FY 2003-2004 BUDGET BUT DID NOT CUT HIS BUDGET; THE \$200,000 WILL BE GENERATED BY HOUSING OUT OF COUNTY INMATES.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ALSO INFORMED THE BOARD COUNTY INMATES WHO ARE ALLOWED TO WORK HAS TO PAY THE JAIL \$5 PER DAY FOR ROOM AND BOARD AND DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON WHAT HAPPENS WITH THESE MONIES.

JERRY BROCK ADDRESSED PICTOMETRY AND THE COUNTY BEING ABLE TO MAKE MONIES BY PROVIDING THESE SERVICES. THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS FOR HIM TO INCLUDE A FEE FOR THESE SERVICES IN HIS RECOMMENDED FEE SCHEDULE FOR 911 SERVICES.

THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS TO AUTHORIZE DEPUTY CLERK CARTER TO CUT 1% OR WHATEVER PERCENTAGE NEEDED FROM ALL BUDGETS THAT DID NOT VOLUNTARILY CUT THEIR BUDGET BY THE 7.5% THE BOARD HAD PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED IF THE 2 MILLS THE WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD IS ADDING THIS YEAR WOULD BE FOR A CERTAIN LENGTH OF TIME. DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON OTHER MILLAGE THAT HAD BEEN PASSED THAT WAS SUPPOSE TO COME OFF AFTER A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME BUT IT WAS NOT KNOWN IF IT HAD.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT READ A LETTER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FROM THE BOARD ACKNOWLEDGING THEY ARE AWARE OF A DEFICIENCY IN THE TAX COLLECTOR'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003-2004 TALLING \$69,143. DISCUSSION WAS HELD WITH DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISING THE BOARD THEY HAD TO FUND AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE TAX COLLECTOR'S SALARY PER FLORIDA STATUTE 145.141. COMMISSIONER BROCK OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE AND CARRIED TO AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO SIGN THE LETTER.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN RECESSED THE MEETING UNTIL 1:00 P.M. ON AUGUST 6TH.

ATTEST: _____

DEPUTY CLERK

CHAIRMAN

END OF MINUTES FOR 07/29/03