

BOARD MINUTES FOR 09/29/03

SEPTEMBER 29, 2003

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MET ON THE ABOVE DATE AT 3:00 P.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ANNEX, BOARD MEETING ROOM, 1331 SOUTH BOULEVARD, CHIPLEY, FLORIDA WITH COMMISSIONERS BROCK, COPE, CORBIN, HALL AND FINCH PRESENT. ATTORNEY HOLLEY, ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT AND DEPUTY CLERK CARTER WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER WITH ATTORNEY HOLLEY OFFERING PRAYER. COMMISSIONER COPE LED IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT UPDATED THE BOARD ON GENEVELYN BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY TEEN COURT, HAVING ADVISED THEY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE TO THE OLD CHIPLEY FIRE STATION WHICH WILL PROVIDE THEM WITH MORE SPACE; HOWEVER, THEY ARE REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM THE BOARD WITH THE UTILITY BILLS.

MS. BROWN PROVIDED THE BOARD WITH INFORMATION ON THE CHILDREN TEEN COURT SERVES AND ADDRESSED THE ADDITIONAL SPACE WOULD ALLOW THEM TO PUT COMPUTERS IN THE OLD CHIPLEY FIRE STATION, HAVE WORK SPACE FOR THE CHILDREN TO DO THEIR HOMEWORK AND ALLOW THEM TO WORK STRONGER WITH THE CHILDREN ON THEIR CHARACTER.

WHEN ASKED WHAT THE ESTIMATED COST FOR THE UTILITIES WOULD BE, MS. BROWN STATED THE UTILITY BILLS HAD BEEN PULLED AT THE FACILITY AND THEY WERE RUNNING ABOUT \$150 PER MONTH.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN ADDRESSED THE BOARD DOING GOOD ON THEIR EQUIPMENT SALE AND REQUESTED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT PROVIDE AN UPDATE:

- A. \$4,230 BATWING, DODGE VAN AND FORD TRACTOR
- \$8,100 MOTORGRADER
- \$ 800 MORE COMING ON COMPUTER PARTS

MS. BROWN UPDATED THE BOARD ON THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN THEY SERVE, THE NUMBER OF THEM WHO WERE UNDER THE AGE OF 14, WHAT TEEN COURT PROVIDES TO THESE CHILDREN AND THE FUTURE PLANS OF TEEN COURT ON WHAT THEY WILL PROVIDE FOR THE YOUTH.

COMMISSIONER FINCH OFFERED A MOTION FOR THE BOARD TO WORK TOWARD FUNDING THE UTILITIES FOR THE TEEN COURT UP TO \$1800. MS. BROWN ALSO REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM THE BOARD ON THE MAINTENANCE OF THE FACILITY. THE BOARD AGREED FOR HER TO WORK THROUGH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON THE MAINTENANCE AND IF HE FEELS THE BOARD CAN PROVIDE THE ASSISTANCE, HE WILL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THEM. COMMISSIONER COPE SECONDED THE MOTION AND IT CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

GARY CLARK, SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE, ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON THE JOINT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THIS DATE AND TIME TO DISCUSS A REDISTRICTING PLAN. AFTER THE SCHOOL BOARD HAD REVIEWED THE PROPOSED PLAN, CLARK ADVISED THEY FELT AT THIS TIME THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN GOING BACK THROUGH THE REDISTRICTING PROPOSALS WITH THE COUNTY. HE REFERENCED BOTH BOARDS HAVING WENT THROUGH THE PROCESS APPROXIMATELY NINE TO TEN MONTHS AGO AND BY A 9 TO 1 VOTE, VOTED TO APPROVE THE PLAN PROPOSED; HOWEVER, WHEN THE REDISTRICTING WENT BACK BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL BOARDS, IT PASSED BY A 3 TO 2 VOTE.

CLARK ADDRESSED SOME OF THE CONCERNS AND COMMENTS HE HAD HEARD ON THE REDISTRICTING PLAN NOW BEING PROPOSED:

1. THE PUBLIC SENTIMENT IS THERE NOT BE SEPARATE DISTRICT LINES FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS; THIS WILL NOT ONLY CAUSE A BIG PROBLEM FOR THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS IN TRYING TO BALANCE OUT THE DISTRICTS BUT THE VOTERS WILL FIND SUBSTANTIAL PROBLEMS AS WELL.
2. ALL THE SCHOOL BOARD KNOWS AT THIS TIME IS WHAT THEY HAVE READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS AND WHAT THEY HAVE SEEN; HE IS HERE TO LISTEN AND TAKE ANY CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS THE COMMISSION-

ERS MAY HAVE BACK TO THE SCHOOL BOARD. HE ADVISED HE WOULD BE ACTING AS A LIASON BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD AND THE COUNTY COMMISSION.

COMMISSIONER COPE QUESTIONED WHY THE SCHOOL BOARD CHOSE NOT TO HAVE A JOINT MEETING WITH THE COMMISSIONERS ON REDISTRICTING AS THEY HAD TOLD HIM THEY WOULD BE IN AGREEMENT TO DO SO. CLARK ADVISED THIS WAS BEFORE THERE WAS A SET REDISTRICTING PLAN.

COMMISSIONER HALL ADDRESSED THE SCHOOL BOARD AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BEING TWO SEPARATE ENTITIES AND EACH HAS THE RIGHT TO HAVE THEIR OWN SEPARATE LINES.

COMMISSIONER FINCH REQUESTED DISCUSSION ON WHY THE REDISTRICTING LINES IN PLACE ARE NOT GOOD. COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THE CONCERN AND CRITICISM HE HAS HAD IS THE COUNTY HAS ALWAYS HAD THREE TO FOUR DISTRICT LINES TIED TO CHIPLEY. COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED THE PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP WOULD NOT CHANGE THIS.

COMMISSIONER HALL STATED HE HAD ALWAYS BEEN DISSATISFIED WITH THE WHOLE REDISTRICTING AND HAS VOTED AGAINST IT ON EVERY OCCASION; HE FELT LIKE THERE WAS A DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF VOTERS IN THE COUNTIES IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA WHEN THEY VOTE COUNTYWIDE. HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO DO THE MAP DIFFERENT THAN IT IS PROPOSED NOW; HOWEVER DUE TO THE NUMBERS WHERE THEY ARE AT, IT CAN'T BE DONE. HE STATED THE PROPOSED MAP WOULD HAVE ONLY THREE DISTRICTS TOUCHING CHIPLEY RATHER THAN FOUR. HE ALSO FELT THERE WERE MORE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE COUNTY WITH SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS THAN HAS EVER BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IN THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY.

WHEN COMMISSIONER FINCH STATED THE SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT COULDN'T BE ACCOMPLISHED BY REDRAWING THE DISTRICT LINES, COMMISSIONER HALL ADVISED IT WOULDN'T HELP WITH THAT NOW BUT THE PROPOSED REDISTRICTING WOULD BALANCE THE DISTRICTS BETTER AND BLOCK THEM OFF RATHER THAN RUNNING LINES WHERE PEOPLE ARE DISSATISFIED.

COMMISSIONER BROCK EXPRESSED HIM BEING DISAPPOINTED WITH THE CURRENT REDISTRICTING LINES DUE TO THEM SPLITTING THE TOWN OF WAUSAU.

COMMISSIONER FINCH STATED ALL THE BOARD SHOULD BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW A MAP RATHER THAN JUST TAKING THE ONE MAP PREPARED BY COMMISSIONER HALL AND VOTING ON IT; NO MATTER HOW THE REDISTRICTING LINES ARE DRAWN, THE NUMBERS WILL HAVE TO REMAIN THE SAME EVEN THOUGH IT MAY BE A DIFFERENT GROUP OF PEOPLE. HE ALSO VOICED OPPOSITION TO BEING DRAWN OUT OF HIS DISTRICT.

CLARK ADDRESSED SOME OF HIS CONCERNS:

1. WHY WASN'T THIS ADDRESSED AT THE ORIGINAL REDISTRICTING MEETING WHEN THEY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO; HE WAS OPPOSED TO SPLITTING WAUSAU AT THAT TIME AND OPPOSED TO DRAWING THE LINE UP HOLMES CREEK THAT CATCHES ANGIE MORRIS TO KEEP HER IN HER OWN DISTRICT.
2. THE PROPOSED PLAN HE SUBMITTED IN THE ORIGINAL REDISTRICTING DREW HIM, COMMISSIONER FINCH AND ANGIE MORRIS OUT OF THEIR OWN DISTRICTS; HOWEVER, HE FELT IT WAS A FAIR REPRESENTATION.
3. HE AGREED WITH COMMISSIONER HALL ON THE NEED FOR FIVE SQUARE BLOCKS; HOWEVER, HE SEES THERE IS MANIPULATION WITH THIS MAP TO KEEP CERTAIN MEMBERS IN THEIR DISTRICT.
4. THE ONLY FAIR THING TO DO IS TO BRING IN AN INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY WHO DOESN'T CARE WHERE ANY OF THE TEN BOARD MEMBERS LIVE AND HAVE THEM DRAW A PLAN. IF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WANTED TO DO THIS AND A MAP WAS BROUGHT BACK WHERE THERE WAS NO CONSIDERATION WHERE ANYBODY LIVES OR IF THEY GOT DRAWN OUT OF THEIR DISTRICTS, HE WOULD BE WILLING TO GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL BOARD AND PROPOSE THE REDISTRICTING BE DISCUSSED FURTHER.
5. HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE HAD THE MAP HE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED

CONSIDERED.

COMMISSIONER COPE STATED HE THOUGHT THE WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR THIS DATE AND TIME WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD WOULD HAVE ALLOWED THE REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY MAP PROPOSED. CLARK ADVISED THIS WAS CERTAINLY NOT WHAT WAS RELAYED TO HIM; COMMISSIONER HALL'S MAP WAS THE ONLY PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP TO BE DISCUSSED. HE ADDRESSED WHEN THE REDISTRICTING PLAN WAS REDONE, THE NUMBERS WERE OUT OF BALANCE FOR TWO SPECIFIC REASONS:

1. THE NUMBERS WERE AS CLOSE AS COULD BE COME UP WITH STAYING WITHIN THE LINES GIVEN
2. THEY WERE TRYING TO ALLOW IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF 10% DIFFERENTIAL IN THE DISTRICTS FOR GROWTH. IT IS OBVIOUS DISTRICTS 3 AND 5 ARE GOING TO GROW AT A MUCH FASTER RATE THAN THE REST OF THE COUNTY; KNOWING THE COUNTY HAS TO REVIEW THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS WITHIN A TEN YEAR PERIOD, AT LEAST IT MAY BE FIVE OR SIX YEARS BEFORE THE REDISTRICTING WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE AGAIN CONSIDERING THE GROWTH THAT IS GOING TO OCCUR BEFORE IT GETS WAY OUT OF BALANCE AGAIN. CLARK REFERENCED THE COMMITTEE WHO WORKED ON THE REDISTRICTING BROUGHT BACK FOUR SCENARIOS; NOBODY COULD STAND THE THOUGHT OF BEING DRAWN OUT OF THEIR DISTRICT AND THEY WENT BACK AND APPROVED A MAP TO KEEP EVERYONE IN THEIR DISTRICT AND THAT IS WHY THEY HAVE THE MAP THEY HAVE. HE STATED THE MAP IS NOT A GOOD MAP AND HE DIDN'T LIKE IT TO START WITH; HOWEVER, THEY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY WHEN THEY WENT THROUGH THE PROCESS AND IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE AT THAT TIME. HE FEELS THE BOARD SHOULD KEEP THE CURRENT REDISTRICTING PLAN IN PLACE AT LEAST FOR A COUPLE OF ELECTIONS AND THEN RE-ADDRESS IT OR GET AN INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY TO DO A PLAN.

COMMISSIONER HALL STATED THIS WAS HIS RECOMMENDATION TO BEGIN WITH AND HAVE THE COMMISSIONERS OUT OF IT; HOWEVER, IT WAS REJECTED. CLARK ADDRESSED THIS WAS PROBABLY DUE TO IT BEING EXTREMELY EXPENSIVE TO HIRE AN INDEPENDENT PARTY.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THE REDISTRICTING WAS A POLITICAL ISSUE FROM DAY ONE WITH CLARK AGREEING THIS IS WHY THERE WAS A THREE TO TWO VOTE.

CLARK TOUCHED ON DISTRICTS THAT ARE TOUCHING CHIPLEY AND ADVISED HE HAS NOT WON THE CHIPLEY VOTE IN ANY OF THE ELECTIONS; THE PEOPLE IN WAUSAU, GREENHEAD, SUNNY HILLS AND TUMBLECREEK HAVE ELECTED HIM.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED THE MAIN THING THE PEOPLE IN WAUSAU DON'T UNDERSTAND IS WHY THEY CAN'T CONTINUE TO WALK ACROSS THE STREET AND VOTE LIKE THEY ALWAYS HAVE.

CLARK AGREED THE NUMBER ONE COMPLAINT HE HAD WITH THE REDISTRICTING PLAN IN PLACE WAS PEOPLE WERE HAVING TO PASS A PRECINCT VOTING PLACE AND GO 15 MILES FURTHER TO VOTE; THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF HOW THE PRECINCTS ARE LAID OUT.

COMMISSIONER FINCH SHOWED COMMISSIONER HALL A MAP HE HAD DRAWN THAT DREW HIM OUT OF HIS DISTRICT; FINCH STATED HE JUST HAD TO JUGGLE THE NUMBERS A LITTLE BUT THEY ARE STILL BALANCED. COMMISSIONER HALL STATED IF THE BOARD VOTED TO ACCEPT THE MAP AND IT COULD BE DONE, HE WOULD ACCEPT IT.

CLARK READDRESSED THE BOARD ON PERSONS HAVING TO GO TO TWO DIFFERENT POLLING PLACES IF THE SCHOOL BOARD AND COUNTY COMMISSION HAD SEPARATE DISTRICT LINES.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE NUMBERS PROVIDED BY THE 911 OFFICE AND THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS BEING CONTRADICTORY; COMMISSIONER HALL ADVISED HIS MAP WAS USING THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS NUMBERS AND SHE USES CENSUS DATA.

CLARK ADVISED HE WAS PROBABLY THE MOST ATIMATE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS NOT TO MEET WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSION ON THE REDISTRICTING BECAUSE IT SEEMED THE SCHOOL BOARD WAS A LITTLE BIT OF AFTER THOUGHT IN THE PROCESS; THEY SAW A MAP COME OUT IN THE NEWSPAPER STATING THE COUNTY COMMISSION WAS CONSIDERING THE

MAP, WAS GOING TO HAVE A MEETING ON IT ON THE 29TH AND WOULD LIKE FOR THE SCHOOL BOARD TO COME TO IT. THEY DIDN'T FEEL LIKE THEY WERE GIVEN OPTIONS OR CONSIDERATION.

COMMISSIONER HALL OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROCK TO ACCEPT THE REDISTRICTING MAP AS SUBMITTED BY HIM. COM- MISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED IF THIS WAS A WORKSHOP, THE BOARD SHOULD BE WORKING TOWARD A MAP THEY COULD AGREE WITH OR FEEL BETTER ABOUT; HE QUESTIONED WHY WOULD THE BOARD APPROVE A MAP TODAY WITHOUT GIVING THE OTHER BOARD MEMBERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW ONE AND REITERATED HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE DRAWN OUT OF HIS DISTRICT AT THIS TIME. HE STATED HE COULD SEE IN THE FUTURE WHERE THIS MIGHT HAPPEN BUT DOESN'T THINK IT IS JUSTIFIABLE TODAY. HE REQUESTED THE BOARD CONSIDER HIS OPINION.

COMMISSIONER COPE STATED HE VOTED WITH THE REDISTRICTING MAP LAST TIME BUT DIDN'T REALLY APPROVE OF IT; HE THOUGHT EVERYBODY WAS IN AGREEMENT WITH IT BUT WHEN THEY ALL VOTED, THEY VOTED DIFFERENTLY. HE QUESTIONED COMMISSIONER HALL HOW IT WOULD AFFECT THE MAP IF THEY USED HIGHWAY 278 FROM VERNON TO WAUSAU AS THIS WOULD SQUARE IT UP AND MAKE IT LOOK BETTER. IT WAS NOTED IT WOULD DRAW ANGIE MORRIS, SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER OUT; HOWEVER, IF THE SCHOOL BOARD DOESN'T ACCEPT IT, IT WON'T AFFECT THEM ANYWAY.

COMMISSIONER FINCH AGREED IF THEY ARE GOING TO DRAW A MAP AND THEY ARE TOTALLY INDEPENDENT FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD, THEY OUGHT TO HAVE THE OPTION TO DRAW IT ANYWHERE THEY WANT TO.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THERE NOT BEING MUCH PROPERTY LEFT IN THE SOUTH END OF DISTRICT FIVE TO BE DEVELOPED; 38,000 ACRES OF THE PROPERTY IS STATE OWNED AND WILL NEVER BE DEVELOPED. COMMISSIONER FINCH STATED 100,000 PEOPLE COULD BE PUT IN ROLLING PINES.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED WHENEVER THERE IS A REDISTRICTING MAP DRAWN, DISTRICT 3 HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER AND IS THE DISTRICT WITH THE MOST PROJECTED GROWTH.

CLARK ADDRESSED DISTRICT 3 MAY BE THE ONE PROJECTED TO HAVE THE MOST GROWTH; BUT, HISTORICALY, IT HAS NOT BEEN THE ONE WITH THE MOST GROWTH. HE REFERENCED DISTRICT 5 HAVING GONE OVER BY APPROXIMATELY 4,000 PEOPLE WHAT THEY BEGAN THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS WITH.

COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED HIM STILL HOPING THE SCHOOL BOARD AND THE COMMISSIONERS COULD SIT DOWN AND AGREE ON A REDISTRICTING PLAN AS IT WAS GOING TO BE A NIGHTMARE FOR THE PEOPLE IF THE SCHOOL BOARD AND COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICTS ARE SEPARATE.

CLARK SAID HE WOULD AGREE TO GO BACK TO HIS BOARD AND ASK THEM IF THEY ARE WILLING TO SIT DOWN WITH A BLANK SHEET OF PAPER AND BEGIN CONSIDERATION OF A REDISTRICTING PROPOSAL; HE CAN'T TELL THEM HOW THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL REACT BUT HE WILL FIGHT TOOTH AND NAIL IF THEY TRY TO MAKE SURE SOMEBODY IS DRAWN INTO THEIR EXISTING DISTRICT. HOWEVER, IF THEY WILL AGREE TO GO INTO IT OBJECTIVELY AND DRAW FIVE SQUARE BLOCKS IN THE COUNTY REGARDLESS OF WHERE ANYONE LIVES, HE WOULD TAKE IT BACK TO THE SCHOOL BOARD AND PROPOSE THEY CONSIDER SITTING DOWN WITH THIS COMMITTEE.

COMMISSIONER HALL STATED THE SCHOOL BOARD NEEDS TO BE AWARE TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. CLARK ADVISED HE WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AND HE IS NOT SURE IF THE SCHOOL BOARD WOULD BE INTERESTED IN MEETING OR NOT.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN INFORMED CLARK THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS HAS ADVISED SHE WOULD NEED TO KNOW SOMETHING BY THE FIRST OF OCTOBER WITH CLARK STATING THEY COULD JUST KILL THE PROJECT. CORBIN SAID HE WAS WILLING TO WORK WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD IF THEY ARE INTERESTED IN REVIEWING THE REDISTRICTING. CLARK REITERATED HE WAS GOING TO BE ON VACATION FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

COMMISSIONER COPE SAID HE DOESN'T LIKE THE CURRENT REDISTRICTING MAP AS IT IS OBVIOUS EVERYONE WAS DRAWN IN THEIR DISTRICTS. CLARK STATED HE DIDN'T LIKE THE CURRENT OR THE PROPOSED REDISTRICTING MAP.

COMMISSIONER HALL SUGGESTED ADOPTING THE REDISTRICTING MAP HE IS PROPOSING AND THEN GET WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD AND IF A DIFFERENT PROPOSAL IS DECIDED UPON, THEY CAN CHANGE IT AGAIN IN AN ODD YEAR.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN STATED HIS DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE SCHOOL BOARD NOT CONSIDERING MEETING WITH THE BOARD TO DISCUSS THE REDISTRICTING.

CLARK REITERATED IT WAS THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THE REDISTRICTING WAS PRESENTED TO THE SCHOOL BOARD, WHILE IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ACCURATE, IT WAS THE MESSAGE CONVEYED. CLARK SAID THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT IS HAPPENING; THE BOARD HAS A PROPOSAL THEY ARE CONSIDERING ADOPTING. HE THEN ASKED IF THE SCHOOL BOARD HAD MET WITH THEM, IF THEY THOUGHT IT WAS EVEN REMOTELY POSSIBLE TO TAKE THE PROPOSED MAP AND REBALANCE THE NUMBERS IN A TWO HOUR WORKSHOP AND VOTE ON A NEW REDISTRICTING MAP TONIGHT.

COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED HAVING A LOT MORE TECHNOLOGY TODAY THAN WHEN THEY DID THE PRIOR REDISTRICTING; THE 911 DIRECTOR CAN GET THE NUMBERS IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED HOW THE 911 DIRECTOR GETS HIS NUMBERS; COMMISSIONER HALL STATED THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS ALSO QUESTIONS THE 911 DIRECTOR'S SOFTWARE AND THIS IS WHY HE WORKED WITH HER ON THE MAP HE IS PROPOSING.

JIM MORRIS, CHIPLEY CITY MANAGER, ASKED THE BOARD AS A VOTER NOT TO SEPARATE DISTRICT 5 WHERE THE VOTERS WOULD HAVE TO GO TO ONE PRECINCT TO VOTE FOR A COUNTY COMMISSIONER AND ANOTHER PRECINCT TO VOTE FOR A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED WHO DECIDED THE DISTRICT NUMBERS. CLARK SAID THIS WAS DISCUSSED DURING THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS LAST TIME AND HE SUGGESTED IF THEY REDID DISTRICTS, PUT A NUMBER IN A HAT AND DRAW THEM OUT AND DECIDE THIS IS GOING TO BE THE NEW DISTRICT NUMBER. HOWEVER, IT HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN THE WAY IT IS NOW.

COMMISSIONER FINCH STATED IF THEY KEEP CUTTING OFF DISTRICT V, IT IS NOT GOING TO BE HISTORICALLY THE SAME PLACE IT HAS BEEN. COM- MISSIONER HALL SAID EVERYTHING IS CHANGING BECAUSE THE NUMBERS ARE CHANGING.

COMMISSIONER HALL CALLED FOR THE QUESTION ON THE FLOOR. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH COMMISSIONER FINCH OPPOSED. COMMISSIONER COPE STATED HE WANTED TO STILL SIT DOWN WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD WITH CHAIRMAN CORBIN REQUESTING CLARK GET BACK WITH THE BOARD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT UPDATED THE BOARD ON HIM HAVING BEEN PRESENTED WITH A BUILDING PERMIT ON THE BUILDING AT BLUE LAKE TO ADD A 12' X 20' ROOM ON TO THE BUILDING; DUE TO NOT BEING SURE IF ALL THE BOARD WAS AWARE AND APPROVED OF THE ADDITION, HE WOULD NOT SIGN THE PERMIT. HERBERT DID EXPLAIN THAT COMMISSIONER FINCH HAD INTENDED TO BRING IT UP AT THE LAST BOARD MEETING.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT ADDRESSED ANOTHER ISSUE WITH THE SEPTIC TANK FOR THE BUILDING; THE BUILDING OFFICIAL, LLOYD POWELL, CHECKED THE GRADES ON THE FLOW AND FEELS A LIFT STATION IS NEEDED. HE ALSO INFORMED THE BOARD THE LOW BIDDER, MIDDLEBROOKS, PULLED THE WRONG PERMIT OFF THE DESK AND INSTALLED THE SEPTIC TANK LAST WEEK WHEN IT WAS SCHEDULED TO BE PUT IN LATER ON THIS WEEK.

COMMISSIONER FINCH EXPLAINED THE REASON THE ADDITIONAL SPACE WAS ADDED ON TO THE BUILDING WAS TO USE FOR STORAGE OR AN OFFICE IN THE FUTURE; HE REITERATED HE HAD MENTIONED TO THE ADMINISTRATOR TO BRING IT UP AT THE LAST BOARD MEETING.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE BATHROOM FACILITIES BEING ABUSED BY THE PUBLIC; COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED ANY BATHROOMS IN THE COUNTY USED BY THE PUBLIC ARE ABUSED. COMMISSIONER HALL REFERENCED THAT IS WHY THE STATE TORE THE BATHROOMS DOWN AT BLUE LAKE TO BEGIN WITH AS IT WAS A CONTINUOUS EXPENSE TO THE TAXPAYERS TO TRY AND KEEP IT OPEN; THIS IS ALSO THE REASON THEY DONE AWAY WITH THE PARK AND PROBABLY THE COUNTY NEEDS TO CABLE OFF THE WHOLE AREA.

COMMISSIONER FINCH OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE TO PUT A DOOR ON THE EXISTING BATHROOMS AT BLUE LAKE PARK WITH LLOYD POWELL AGREEING TO

OPEN THE DOOR IN THE MORNING AND COM- MISSIONER FINCH LOCKING IT IN THE AFTERNOON.

DAVID CORBIN, PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR, ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON IT GETTING HARD TO SATISFY EVERYBODY ON THE PARK SITUATION; IF THEY DO ONE THING AT ONE PARK, DO IT AT ALL PARKS. HE REFERENCED THERE BEING NO MONEY TO TAKE CARE OF THE PROBLEMS AT THE PARKS..

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON PROBLEMS AT DANIELS LAKE AND OTHER PARKS IN THE COUNTY WITH COMMISSIONER BROCK POINTING OUT IT WAS TIME THE COUNTY HAD A FULL TIME PARK RANGER TO LOOK OVER THE PARKS.

ED PELLETIER, RESIDENT OF COUNTRY OAKS, STATED IT WAS TIME FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY TO GO TO THE PARK SERVICE FOR THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND REQUEST THEY PROVIDE MONEY TO MAINTAIN THE PARKS THE COUNTY ALREADY HAVE RATHER THAN GIVING THEM GRANT MONEY TO BUILD MORE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED PELLETIER HE DIDN'T FEEL LIKE GRANT MONIES WAS AVAILABLE FOR MAINTENANCE; IT COULD ONLY BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF PARKS.

LLOYD POWELL RECOMMENDED CONTACTING THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND ASK THEM TO PATROL BLUE LAKE PARK.

COMMISSIONER FINCH OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE TO PUT A DOOR ON THE BATHROOM AT BLUE LAKE AND LOCK IT FOR A 30 DAY TRIAL PERIOD; IF IT WORKS, CONTINUE LOCKING THE DOOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE ADDITION TO THE BUILDING AT BLUE LAKE. COMMISSIONER FINCH SAID SINCE THIS WAS BEYOND WHAT THE BOARD HAD TALKED ABOUT, HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THE BOARD KNEW HIS INTENTION TO ADD ON TO THE FACILITY. HE THEN REFERENCED AN ARTICLE IN THE PAPER WHERE COMMISSIONER BROCK WAS GOING TO GIVE AN AMNESTY DAY IN VERNON AND THIS NOT COMING BEFORE THE BOARD, COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED AMNESTY DAY NOT REQUIRING A PERMIT AND THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD WAS TO HAVE ANYTHING REQUIRING A PERMIT TO BE APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

COMMISSIONER FINCH AGREED AMNESTY DAY WAS A GOOD PROJECT; HOWEVER, HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SEEN IT COUNTY WIDE. COMMISSIONER BROCK RECOMMENDED FINCH USE HIS INMATE CREWS IN HIS DISTRICT TO HOLD AN AMNESTY DAY. DISCUSSION CONTINUED WITH CHAIRMAN CORBIN REQUESTING COMMISSIONER BROCK UPDATE THE BOARD ON WHAT HE WAS GOING TO DO IN VERNON.

COMMISSIONER BROCK STATED HIS INMATE CREW WAS GOING TO WORK ON SATURDAY TO PICK UP RECYCLING IN VERNON USING TRAILORS.

COMMISSIONER FINCH THEN QUESTIONED WHAT A COMMISSIONER WAS ALLOWED TO DO WITHOUT COMING BEFORE THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL. COM- MISSIONER CORBIN ADDRESSED HIM BEING THE ONE TO INITIATE ACTION PRIOR TO ANOTHER BUILDING BEING STARTED, IT COME BEFORE THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL.

COMMISSIONER FINCH REFERENCED THE BOARD HAVING ALREADY APPROVED TO BUILD A BATHROOM AT THE FACILITY; THE SIZE OF THE BATHROOM WAS NEVER ESTABLISHED. THE ADDITION IS JUST A 12' X 20' ROOM WITH A BATHROOM ON THE END WITH THE REMAINDER OF THE SPACE BEING USED FOR OFFICE SPACE OR STORAGE; IF THE BOARD DOESN'T WANT TO APPROVE OF THIS, THEY WILL BUILD JUST A BATHROOM.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED THE BOARD TO MAKE A DECISION IF THEY WANTED A BATHROOM IN THE EXISTING BUILDING OR DO THEY WANT TO ADD ON ADDITIONAL SPACE TO PUT A BATHROOM IN.

COMMISSIONER FINCH UPDATED THE BOARD ON THE PLANS HE HAD TO BUILD A ROOM ON THE NORTH END OF THE EXISTING BUILDING AS HE WOULDN'T WANT TO GO INSIDE THE BUILDING TO BUILD A BATHROOM; HOWEVER, IF THEY WANT TO JUST ATTACH A LITTLE BATHROOM, HE WILL REDO HIS PLANS AND JUST DO THAT.

COMMISSIONER FINCH OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROCK TO BUILD A 12' X 20' BATHROOM ON THE NORTH END OF THE EXISTING BLUE LAKE BUILDING.

COMMISSIONER BROCK QUESTIONED THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT GOING OUT AND INSPECTING FOR THE SEPTIC TANK AND ASKED IF THE LIFT STATION WOULD DISTURB ANY OTHER PART OF THE PARK WITH CROSS LINES RUNNING THROUGH ONE OF THE BUILDINGS, REMOVAL OF TREES, ETC.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADVISED THAT AL CLEVELAND OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND A FL-DEP REPRESENTATIVE BOTH CHOSE THE LOCATION WHERE THE SEPTIC TANK WOULD GO; CLEVELAND HAD SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GRAVITY FLOW BUT WROTE ON THE PERMIT WHEN THE CONTRACTOR BID ON THE SEPTIC TANK, THEY GO AND CHECK IT TO MAKE SURE THERE WAS ENOUGH FALL AND DETERMINE IF IT NEEDED A GRINDER OR NOT. FINCH EXPLAINED ONE BID WAS FROM MIDDLEBROOKS WHO SAID GRAVITY FLOW WAS ALL THAT WAS NEEDED AND ONE BID WAS FROM WALKER SEPTIC TANK AND HAD A GRINDER INCLUDED.

COMMISSIONER BROCK QUESTIONED RUMORS HE HAD HEARD ON GRADES HAVING BEEN SHOT AT THE LOCATION AND A BUILDING WAS GOING TO HAVE TO BE MOVED AND REQUESTED IF ANYBODY KNEW ANYTHING TO SAY SOMETHING NOW.

COMMISSIONER FINCH STATED THERE WAS NOT GOING TO BE A BUILDING MOVED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF.

THE BUILDING INSPECTOR, LLOYD POWELL, ADDRESSED THE BOARD STATING THERE WAS GOING TO HAVE TO BE A LIFT STATION INSTALLED AND THERE IS A DRAINAGE PROBLEM THAT WILL HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED.

COMMISSIONER HALL QUESTIONED IF THE WELL AT THE FACILITY WAS A PUBLIC WELL; IF SO, THE STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR MINIMUM SETBACK IS 200' FROM THE PUBLIC WELL.

COMMISSIONER FINCH AND ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT BOTH ADVISED THE FL-DEP REPRESENTATIVE AND AL CLEVELAND HAD AGREED ON THE SEPTIC TANK LOCATION AND SAID IT MET DEP REGULATIONS.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN QUESTIONED POWELL IF HE WAS INVOLVED WITH THE SEPTIC TANK; POWELL ADVISED, AS BUILDING INSPECTOR, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FROM THE BUILDING TO THE SEPTIC TANK.

COMMISSIONER HALL ADDRESSED PERSONS HAVING COMPLAINED TO HIM BECAUSE THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WAS MAKING PERSONS LIVING IN THE SAND HILLS HAVE AN ABOVE GROUND SEPTIC TANK AND IS NOW ALLOWING ONE AT BLUE POND TO BE BUILT UNDERGROUND.

COMMISSIONER FINCH AGREED TO TAKE WHATEVER MONIES HE HAS TO PAY FOR THE LIFT STATION AT BLUE POND.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH COMMISSIONER HALL OPPOSED.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON MIDDLEBROOKS ALREADY HAVING PUT IN THE SEPTIC TANK WITHOUT AUTHORITY FROM THE PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR; HOWEVER, THEY SENT A FAX TO THE PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR ADVISING THEY HAD PICKED UP THE PERMIT IN ERROR.

COMMISSIONER HALL INFORMED COMMISSIONER FINCH HE MAY WANT TO CONTACT THE CITY OF VERNON ON THE LIFT STATION THEY JUST HAD INSTALLED AS HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE CHEAPER THAN THE QUOTE THAT HAD BEEN PROVIDED. POWELL RECOMMENDED FINCH GET WITH THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AS THEY ARE THE ONES THAT WILL GOVERN THE SIZE, ETC. OF THE LIFT STATION NEEDED.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY RECOMMENDED THE BOARD GO AHEAD AND AUTHORIZE COMMISSIONER FINCH TO WORK WITH MIDDLEBROOKS CONTRACTORS AND NEGOTIATE A PRICE FOR THE LIFT STATION AND GRINDER. COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF HOLLEY'S RECOMMENDATION.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT ADDRESSED THE PAY SCALE COMMITTEE HAVING MET AND DISCUSSED PAY ADJUSTMENTS FOR DIFFERENT INDIVIDUALS BUT DIDN'T AGREE ON ANYTHING; THEY DECIDED TO BRING THE ISSUES BACK BEFORE THE BOARD. THE COMMITTEE FELT LIKE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR THE BOARD TO LOOK AT THE ONES WHO WERE UNDER DEPARTMENT HEADS, LOOK AT THEIR RATE OF PAY AND LOOK AT HOW MANY PEOPLE THEY SUPERVISE OR ARE IN THEIR DEPARTMENT TO SEE IF THEY WANT THEM TO KEEP THE TITLE OF DEPARTMENT HEAD OR POSSIBLY LOOK AT REORGANIZATION.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED EDDIE RILEY AND JAMES PETERSON WANTING AN INCREASE AND LYNDA WALLER WAS CONCERNED ABOUT HER HELPER. COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED IF EDDIE RILEY IS ON THE SAME LEVEL WITH ROBERT HARCUS AND DALLAS CARTER; IF SO, HIS PAY NEEDS TO BE ADJUSTED.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED THE BOARD NEEDED TO TELL THE COMMITTEE WHAT THEY WANT CLASSIFIED AS A DEPARTMENT HEAD.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN CALLED FOR A TEN MINUTE RECESS. PURSUANT TO A RECESS, CLIFF KNAUER, COUNTY ENGINEER, UPDATED THE BOARD ON CHAIRMAN CORBIN HAVING ASKED

HIM TO LOOK AT JOINER ROAD FROM STATE PARK ROAD TO FORTNER ROAD; THEY DID CORING ABOUT EVERY 200' AND IT APPEARS THERE WAS ENOUGH GOOD MATERIAL THAT CAME FROM MOONSEED PIT TO PUT THAT PORTION OF ROAD IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE EXCEPT THE LAST 300' BEFORE FORTNER ROAD. IT PROBABLY NEEDS SOME MORE GOOD BASE MATERIALS MIXED IN ON THAT PORTION OF THE ROAD. HE ALSO ADVISED CULVERTS WERE BEING PUT IN RIGHT NOW.

KNAUER REPORTED ON A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS BEING SENT TO SYFRETT SURVEYING AND SOUTHEASTERN SURVEYORS ON WORK TO BE DONE ON COLEMAN AVENUE BUT HAVE NOT BEEN RETURNED YET.

KNAUER UPDATED THE BOARD ON HAVING LOOKED AT THE PROBLEM WITH WATER BEING CONTAINED IN MOONSEED PIT; HE RECOMMENDED PUTTING IN DRAW DOWN PIPES AND BUILD A BERM OUTSIDE OF WHAT IS PRESENTLY THERE. THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS FOR KNAUER TO WORK WITH DALLAS CARTER, SUPERVISOR AT PUBLIC WORKS, AND MAKE CORRECTING THE PROBLEM AT THE PIT A PRIORITY.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED ON EMPLOYEE RAISES WITH THE BOARD REVIEWING THE INFORMATION THEY WERE PROVIDED ON EMPLOYEES CURRENT PAY STATUS, LONGEVITY PAY, 3% SALARY INCREASES, ETC. AND PAY ADJUSTMENTS ALREADY APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED BEING IN THE AUDIENCE WHEN MALCOLM GAINNEY WAS HIRED AND THE BOARD AGREEING AFTER A YEAR, THEY WOULD GIVE CONSIDERATION TO A SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR HIM.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED LYNDA WALLER AND LLOYD POWELL HAVING REQUESTED IN THE PAST INCREASES FOR FELECIA REED AND JANUARY 1, 2004 SHE WILL BE EMPLOYED 11 YEARS.

COMMISSIONER HALL ADDRESSED UNDER CLERICAL II, LYNN WHITE, MELISSA DIBATTISTE AND CECELIA WARD ALL MAKING THE SAME RATE OF PAY WITH THERE BEING NO STEP PAY INCREASE FOR LYNN WHITE'S YEARS OF SERVICE. COMMISSIONER FINCH ADVISED ALL OF THESE POSITIONS WERE GIVEN A .50 PER HOUR INCREASE TO TRY AND BRING THEM IN LINE WITH THE OTHER CLERICAL II POSITIONS; MARY JANE SILCOX STARTED OFF AT A HIGHER RATE OF PAY WHEN SHE WAS HIRED AND SHE WAS THE LAST ONE HIRED.

COMMISSIONER HALL THEN COMPARED THE SALARIES OF DALLAS CARTER AND ROBERT HARCUS; DALLAS HAS WORKED SINCE 1981 AND ROBERT HAS WORKED SINCE 1977; DALLAS HAS BEEN A SUPERVISOR LESS THAN A YEAR AND ROBERT HAS BEEN A SUPERVISOR FOR 11 YEARS; THERE IS ONLY \$1.22 PER HOUR DIFFERENCE IN SALARY. HE AGREED THERE IS NO WAY TO MAKE EVERYBODY HAPPY AND IS NOT SAYING IF IT IS RIGHT OR WRONG.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED DALLAS HAVING A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITY, BEING CALLED OUT AT NIGHT AND ON WEEKENDS. COMMISSIONER HALL REFERRED TO LYNDA WALLER, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, HAVING TO GO TO MEETINGS AT NIGHT AND HAS HAD SEVERAL JOBS ADDED TO HER OVER THE YEARS.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED JOHN RICHARDS HAVING WORKED FOR TEN YEARS AND THERE WAS QUITE A BIT OF DIFFERENCE IN HIS AND CHRIS ROBERTS PAY. COMMISSIONER BROCK EXPRESSED HIS OPINION RICHARDS WOULD BE HARD TO REPLACE AS HE CAN DO ANYTHING; HE RECOMMENDED A \$.50 PER HOUR INCREASE FOR RICHARDS.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED CHRIS ROBERTS FEELS HE IS IMPORTANT TOO. IT WAS ALSO POINTED OUT CHRIS ROBERT HAD BEEN HERE SEVEN YEARS LONGER THAN RICHARDS AND A LARGE AMOUNT OF HIS SALARY INCREASE WAS DUE TO HIS LONGEVITY PAY.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADDRESSED THE EMPLOYEES ON THE LIST ARE MAKING WHAT THEY WERE HIRED TO DO; WHAT THE BOARD IS DOING IS PROBABLY JUST CREATING MORE PROBLEMS. SHE ALSO INFORMED THE BOARD SHE HAD TOLD THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR SHE DIDN'T WANT TO SIT IN ON ANY MORE COMMITTEES; SHE WILL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR THE COMMITTEE TO MAKE A DECISION. SHE ADDRESSED EVER SINCE THE BOARD IMPLEMENTED THE POLICY TO GIVE ADDITIONAL STEP PAY INCREASES FOR EXPERIENCE WHEN AN EMPLOYEE IS HIRED IN, IT HAS BLOWN THE WHOLE STEP PAY PLAN. THIS IS THE REASON PEOPLE WHO HIRE IN SOMETIMES MAKE AS MUCH OR MORE THAN THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN HERE AND THEY ARE GETTING RIGHT BACK WHERE THEY STARTED PRIOR TO THE STEP PAY PLAN BEING IMPLEMENTED. SHE REFERENCED WHEN MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO SOME, YOU CAN GO BACK AND SEE WHERE OTHER ADJUSTMENTS ARE NEEDED; HOWEVER, THE FUNDING IS NOT AVAILABLE.



COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED EDDIE RILEY AND LYNN WHITE AND QUESTIONED IF WHITE WOULD GET A STEP PAY INCREASE; DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED SHE WOULDN'T RECEIVE A STEP PAY UNTIL OCTOBER 1 OF 2004. SHE THEN UPDATED THE BOARD ON THEIR PREVIOUSLY HAVING A STEP PAY PLAN PRIOR TO THE ONE IN AFFECT NOW AND SOME EMPLOYEES RECEIVED IT AND NOW ARE GOING TO RECEIVE ANOTHER ONE.

DUE TO THE PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULED FOR 5:05 P.M., CHAIR- MAN CORBIN PUT THE SALARY ADJUSTMENTS ON HOLD.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT INFORMED THE BOARD THE 911 DIRECTOR HAD RECEIVED A DONATION OF \$500 FROM THE KIWANIS CLUB TO BE USED FOR PEOPLE WHO NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN POSTING THEIR 911 ADDRESSES AND THIS NEEDS TO BE PUT IN A LINE ITEM IN HIS BUDGET. COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROCK AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF THE MONIES BEING PUT IN A LINE ITEM IN THE 911 BUDGET.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT ADDRESSED A REQUEST FROM DAVID CORBIN, PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR, ON THE NEED FOR A LINE ITEM TO COVER THE RENTAL FOR THE PORTALETS AT THE RECREATIONAL FACILITY FOR \$4,680. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED DEPUTY CLERK CARTER IF THERE WAS ANY PLACE TO PAY FOR THE RENTALS OF THE PORTALETS.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER EXPLAINED AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE IS \$30,000 IN CONTINGENCY IN THE GENERAL FUND; A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET WILL BE DONE PROBABLY IN DECEMBER TO SHOW THE ACTUAL CASH CARRY FORWARD FOR THE FY 2003-2004 BUDGET. SHE EMPHASIZED THE BOARD COULDN'T JUST CHANGE THEIR BUDGET JUST BECAUSE THEY SOLD SOME EQUIPMENT; THEY MAY NOT GET ALL THE MONIES THEY BUDGETED TO GET OR THEY MAY GET A LITTLE MORE.

COMMISSIONER BROCK OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE AND CARRIED TO PUT THE RENTAL EXPENSES FOR THE PORTALETS ON A BUDGET LINE ITEM WITH IT TO COME FROM THE EQUIPMENT SALES. COMMISSIONER HALL OPPOSED.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN CALLED FOR A FIVE MINUTE RECESS FOR DEPUTY CLERK CARTER TO DISTRIBUTE INFORMATION ON THE FINAL PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING.

PURSUANT TO A RECESS, CHAIRMAN CORBIN CALLED THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER AND STATED THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO HOLD THE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT THE MILLAGE RATE AND TO ADOPT THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004. THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS ADVERTISED IN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2003. THE TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 TOTALS \$22,808,447 WITH THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE OF 10 MILLS BEING 6.38% MORE THAN THE ROLLED BACK RATE OF 9.40.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE OF 10 MILLS; NO ONE RESPONDED.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF ANYONE ON THE BOARD HAD ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE OF 10 MILLS; NO ONE RESPONDED.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF THERE WAS ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 TOTTALLING \$22,808,447; NO ONE RESPONDED.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF THERE WAS ANYONE ON THE BOARD WHO WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004. COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED ON THE BUDGET NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 29, IT WAS NOTED THERE WAS A \$.50 PER HOUR INCREASE FOR BERNICE HAGAN; THE ACTION OF THE BOARD WAS TO INCREASE BERNICE HAGAN'S SALARY TO \$10.13 PER HOUR. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADVISED THIS WAS AN ERROR AND THE \$10.13 PER HOUR WAS ACTUALLY INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER HAD PROVIDED THE BOARD BUDGET NOTES FOR THIS DATE WHICH SHOWED ITEMS THAT HAD BEEN ADDED TO THE TENTATIVE BUDGET THAT WAS ADVERTISED FOR THE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING. SHE THEN ADDRESSED CHANGES TO THE BUDGET THAT WAS ADVERTISED THAT HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

- A. \$4,680 RENTAL FOR PORTALETS FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES
- B. \$ 500 INCREASE IN 911 BUDGET

C. \$13,888 WAS ADDITIONAL AMOUNT ADVERTISED TO TRANSFER FROM TRANSPORTATION TO GENERAL FUND TO COVER INCREASE IN HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS; THERE WAS ACTUALLY \$28,105 ADDITIONAL EXPENSES; THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS JUST LEAVE ADDITIONAL BUDGET TRANSFER OF \$13,888 FROM TRANSPORTATION AS IS AND NOT INCREASE IT TO THE \$28,105.

D. \$3,909 INCREASE IN BUDGET DUE TO TRAVEL ALLOWANCE FOR BOARD

COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HALL AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE OF 10 MILLS AS THE MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004.

COMMISSIONER HALL OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE AND ON A ROLL CALL VOTE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET TOTALLING \$22,808,447 AS THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN STATED THE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 WAS CONCLUDED.

COMMISSIONER BROCK THANKED CLERK COOK, ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT, DEPUTY CLERK CARTER AND OTHERS WHO ASSISTED WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2004.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT UPDATED THE BOARD ON CHRISTY ARMSTRONG WITH THE WASHINGTON-HOLMES SCHOOL READINESS COALITION HAVING CONTACTED HIM RECOMMENDING JENNY STRICKLAND BE THE BOARD'S APPOINTEE TO THE COALITION BOARD IF THE BOARD DIDN'T HAVE ANYONE ELSE IN MIND. ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT APPROVED OF THIS RECOMMENDATION. COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF JENNY STRICKLAND.

JOHN CARTER ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON TWO DITCHES HAVING BEEN PULLED AND POSTS HAVING BEEN PUT UP ON BOTH SIDES OF A ROAD GOING INTO HIS RESIDENCE; HE WAS REQUESTING HIS ROAD BE PUT BACK LIKE IT WAS.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADVISED THE BOARD THERE WAS A BIG WIDE ROAD BEING GRADED THAT GOES INTO CARTER'S HOUSE AND IT WAS LOCATED INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS OF WAUSAU. FINCH INFORMED THE BOARD CARTER'S NEIGHBOR, HOWARD BLOUNT, SAYS HE OWNS THE PROPERTY, NOT ONLY ON THE ROAD, BUT BEYOND THE ROAD; CARTER SAYS AN EASEMENT WAS GIVEN TO HIM YEARS AGO BY MR. BOY FINCH FOR THE ROAD TO BE PUT THERE.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON IT BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF WAUSAU AND THE COUNTY HAVING GRADED THE ROAD. COMMISSIONER FINCH SAID BLOUNT HAD AGREED TO GIVE A 12' ROAD AND DITCHES ON EACH SIDE TO RUN THE WATER DOWN TO THE STREET AWAY FROM CARTER'S RESIDENCE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED ATTORNEY HOLLEY WHERE DID THE BOARD STAND ON THIS ISSUE AS HE KNOWS THE COUNTY HAS ALWAYS MAINTAINED THE ROADS IN WAUSAU. ATTORNEY HOLLEY QUESTIONED IF WAUSAU GRADED ANY ROADS OR DOES THE COUNTY HAVE AN AGREEMENT TO MAINTAIN THE ROADS. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED THAT WAUSAU DIDN'T GRADE ANY ROADS AND HE DOESN'T FEEL THERE IS A WRITTEN AGREEMENT.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY STATED THE COUNTY PROBABLY GRADES THEIR ROADS AND THE CITY DOESN'T GET AS MUCH GAS TAXES AS OTHERS; THE CITIES NEEDS TO GIVE WRITTEN PERMISSION FOR THE COUNTY TO GRADE THE ROAD.

COMMISSIONER FINCH INFORMED THE BOARD HE HAD ADVISED CARTER HE DIDN'T HAVE A PROBLEM GRADING IT BUT HE FELT LIKE THE COUNTY NEEDED SOMETHING IN WRITING FROM THE CITY ASKING THE COUNTY TO GRADE IT FOR THEM.

THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS FOR COMMISSIONER FINCH AND MR. CARTER TO MEET WITH THE CITY OF WAUSAU TO GET CONCURRENCE ON THE COUNTY GRADING THE ROAD FOR THE CITY; IF THIS IS DONE, GO BACK TO MAINTAINING THE ROAD AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ALSO POINTED OUT THE CITY IS SAYING THEY DON'T CONSIDER THIS A ROAD BUT A DRIVEWAY AS CARTER'S ADDRESS IS OFF A PAVED ROAD. HE ALSO STRESSED THAT HOWARD BLOUNT IS JUST AS IRATE AS CARTER IS BECAUSE HE DON'T WANT ANYTHING DONE TO THE ROAD.

CARTER ADVISED THE ROAD PROBABLY HAS BEEN GRADED FOR 30 YEARS.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN INFORMED CARTER THE BOARD WOULD HAVE TO RELY ON WHAT THE ATTORNEY ADVISES THEM TO DO. ATTORNEY HOLLEY STATED HE DID NOT SAY THE COUNTY COULDN'T GRADE THE ROAD; HE SAID IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF THE CITY AND COUNTY AGREE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF THE ROAD.

COMMISSIONER BROCK QUESTIONED COULDN'T THE COUNTY CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE ROAD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE FROM THE CITY; ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THEY COULD. COMMISSIONER BROCK THEN OFFERED A MOTION TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE ROAD AS PREVIOUSLY MAINTAINED ON A REGULAR BASIS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE FROM THE CITY.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED; THE MOTION ON THE FLOOR DIED FOR A LACK OF A SECOND. CHAIRMAN CORBIN INFORMED MR. CARTER TO MEET WITH THE CITY OF WAUSAU WITH COMMISSIONER FINCH AND TRY AND REACH AN AGREEMENT ON THE MAINTENANCE OF THE ROAD; IF AN AGREEMENT CAN'T BE REACHED, THEN COME BACK BEFORE THE BOARD.

MR. PHILLIP EASTMAN, WITH RESURGENCE HEALTH GROUP, PROVIDED THE BOARD WITH INFORMATION ON HIS PROPOSAL TO ACQUIRE THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL. HE POINTED OUT THEY PLAN ON RUNNING THE HOSPITAL AS A SOUND HOSPITAL AND NOT RUN IT AS A CLINIC AS HAS BEEN REPORTED. HE THEN OUTLINED THE PROPOSAL THEY OFFERED IN FEBRUARY 2003 AND SHOWED A FILM PRESENTATION ON BASICALLY THE SAME INFORMATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE AUDIENCE:

- A. COMMITTED TO SATISFY ALL DEBTS OF NWFCH; AT THAT TIME THEY HAD ABOUT \$3.2 MILLION IN DEBT AND ACQUIREMENT OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OF ABOUT \$1.8 MILLION. THE DEBT AS OF JULY 2003 IS UP ABOUT \$600,000. RESURGENCE STILL STANDS BY THEIR ORIGINAL OFFER AND AGREES TO COMMIT TO SATISFY ALL DEBTS.
- B. THERE ARE MANY NON-ECONOMIC OR NON-FINANCIAL BENEFITS THEY WILL BE BRINGING TO THE NWFCH; HE ENCOURAGED THEM TO CONTACT THEIR HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATORS, CHAIRMAN OF THEIR BOARD, DOCTORS, ETC. AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THEM. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THEIR HOSPITALS MAKES ALL THE DECISIONS; THEY HIRE THE ADMINISTRATOR, HANDLE THE BUDGET, RECRUIT THE PHYSICIANS, THEY CREDENTIAL PHYSICIANS, ETC. AND DEAL WITH OTHER BUSINESS AS IT RELATES TO THE HOSPITAL ON A DAY TO DAY BASIS. ANN THOMPSON SETS ON THEIR BOARD AND SHE IS THE ONLY ONE FROM RESURGENCE WHO SITS ON THE SEVEN TO NINE MEMBER BOARD; IT IS A COMMUNITY CONTROLLED BOARD OF TRUSTEES
- C. TRY AND MAINTAIN NWFCH AS AN ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL
- D. DO NOT INTEND TO DISRUPT ANY REFERRAL PATTERNS BETWEEN PHYSICIANS, SPECIALISTS, PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES
- E. THEY WANT TO PROTECT MARKET SHARE
- F. THEY WILL BRING IN SECONDARY LEVEL SERVICES-CARDIOLOGY, UROLOGY, ORTHOPEDIC; THIS IS A KEY TO INCREASING REVENUE
- G. THEY OFFER PRIVATE OWNERSHIP-THEY DON'T HAVE ANY OUTSIDE INFLUENCE AS HE AND ANN THOMPSON ARE THE SOLE SHARE HOLDERS OF THE COMPANY
- H. CONTINUED OPERATION OF EMERGENCY ROOM; INCREASE QUALITY OF CARE BY REMOVING PHYSICIANS THAT ARE INADEQUATE AND REPLACE WITH MORE COMPETENT PHYSICIANS.
- I. CONTINUE TO PROVIDE INDIGENT CARE WITHOUT COUNTY REIMBURSEMENT
- J. CREATION OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND WORK WITH LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND OTHERS TO MAKE SURE THOSE PERSONS ARE PROVIDED CARE WHEN THEY COME TO THE HOSPITAL; THEY RANGE FROM PROVIDING CAR SEATS FOR THE INDIGENT TO WELLNESS CLINIC SERVICES
- K. PHYSICIAN CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE AND DECISIONS

- L. RECRUIT ACLS CERTIFIED EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIANS/TYPICALLY DECIDED BY MEDICAL STAFF/THIS IS SOMETHING REQUESTED FROM THEIR LAST MEETING AND HE HAS NO PROBLEM ENDORSING THIS IF IT IS AN INDICATION OF A HIGHER MOBILE QUALITY OF EMERGENCY ROOM
- M. NOT LOOKING FOR ANY AD VALOREM TAXES TO SUPPORT HOSPITAL; THEY EXPECT TO BE A TAXPAYER
- N. IN EVENT THEY EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SELLING HOSPITAL, THEY WOULD GIVE COUNTY THE ABSOLUTE RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL

EASTMAN THEN UPDATED THE BOARD ON HIM BEING IN BUSINESS FOR TWENTY YEARS RUNNING AND OPERATING RURAL HOSPITALS; ANN THOMPSON HAS WORKED WITH HIM FOR 15 YEARS; THEY HAVE 100% SUCCESS RATE IN THEIR METHODOLOGY FOR TURNING AROUND HOSPITALS.

EASTMAN WENT OVER A FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL FROM 1999 TO 2003;

- 1. REVENUES WERE DOWN BY ABOUT 14% OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD
- 2. OPERATING MARGIN AT A LOSS OF ABOUT \$2,000,000 PER YEAR
- 3. DEBTS HAVE INCREASED BY ABOUT 60%
- 4. FUND BALANCE/NET WORTH HAS GONE DOWN ABOUT ONE/HALF
- 5. APPARENT THAT CONFIDENCE OF PHYSICIANS IN THE COMMUNITY IS NOT THERE; PHYSICIANS VOTE THEIR CONFIDENCE IN QUALITY CARE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FACILITY BY THEIR PATRONAGE; THEY USE THE FACILITY IF THEY TRUST YOU AND THEY THINK IT IS THE RIGHT QUALITY OF CARE; WHEN THE PERCENTAGES GO FROM 12 TO 6 WITH A GROWING POPULATION BASE, THIS MEANS THE HOSPITAL IS BEING ABANDONED BY THE PEOPLE WHO SHOULD BE ENDORSING IT.
- 6. SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE CHANGED QUICKLY AT THE NWFCH; OTHERWISE, THE HOSPITAL'S SUFFICE WILL BE INEVITABLE.

EASTMAN THEN WENT OVER A FINANCIAL STATEMENT COMPARISON OF TWO OF RESURGENCE'S HOSPITAL AND THE NWFCH:

- 1. RESURGENCE PURCHASED HOSPITAL IN REIDSVILLE, GA IN 2001 AND THE ONE IN MONTEZUMA, GA IN 2002.
- 2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS DATA FOR FIVE YEARS FOR THE NWFCH, THE COMPARISON SHOWS THE COUNTY IS LOSING 14% OF ITS REVENUES OVER THIS PERIOD; RESURGENCE IS INCREASING THEIR REVENUES AT THEIR TWO FACILITIES BY 25% TO 50% IN HALF THAT TIME. THIS IS DUE TO RECRUITING, MARKETING AND GETTING THE PATIENTS TO COME BACK TO THE HOSPITAL BY GIVING THEM TRUST IN WHAT THEY PROVIDE FOR SERVICES
- 3. THE OPERATING MARGIN OF RESURGENCE HOSPITAL IN REIDSVILLE, GA WAS LOSING \$2.6 MILLION LOSS WHEN THEY TOOK IT OVER; IT IS NOW LOSING \$171,000 WHICH IS A 93% IMPROVEMENT; THE HOSPITAL IN MONTEZUMA, GA IN 18 MONTHS, THE OPERATING MARGIN INCREASED FROM \$500,000 TO \$2.2 MILLION
- 4. IN FIVE YEARS, THE OPERATING MARGIN FOR NWFCH WENT DOWN 705.7%

EASTMAN SAID THEIR PROPOSAL INDICATES RESURGENCE IS THE MOST QUALIFIED GROUP WHO WILL HAVE AN INTEREST IN RURAL HOSPITALS; THEY HAVE OFFERED TO PURCHASE THE NWFCH AT A FAIR MARKET VALUE AND ARE WILLING TO STIPULATE THEY WILL PROVIDE AN APPRAISAL AT CLOSING THAT WILL INDICATE THE FAIR MARKET VALUE; THEY HAVE NOT PROPOSED A LEASE AT THIS POINT AS WITH A LEASE IT WILL RESULT IN A LESS THAN FAIR MARKET VALUE TRANSACTION AND THE LANDLORD WILL HAVE TO PAY FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS BECAUSE IT IS DIFFICULT TO FINANCE IMPROVEMENTS IN SOMEONE ELSE'S BUILDING; THEY ARE HERE TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH AS THE MAIN BIDDER IN THEIR FEBRUARY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS; THEY FEEL THEY POSSESS THE SKILLS TO OPERATE THE NWFCH SUCCESSFULLY; THEY ARE HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN AN OPEN AND HONEST PROCESS

AND IF THE BOARD SPEAKS TO THE OTHER COMMUNITIES THEY HAVE DEALT WITH, THEY WILL FIND THEY HAVE BEEN FORTHRIGHT WITH THEM AS WELL.

EASTMAN THEN OFFERED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THE BOARD OR ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE MAY HAVE PERTAINING TO HIS PROPOSAL.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN QUESTIONED HOW LONG WOULD RESURGENCE BE WILLING TO TAKE CARE OF INDIGENT CARE; EASTMAN ADVISED FOREVER. ANN THOMPSON ADDRESSED THEM HAVING DONE BUSINESS THROUGHOUT THEIR CAREERS WITH SMALL COMMUNITIES WHO HAVE BEEN CHALLENGED WITH THE HARDSHIP OF INDIGENT CARE SO THERE IS NOTHING SHOCKING OR NEW TO THEM ON THE COST OF INDIGENCY.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN QUESTIONED EASTMAN ON THE EMPLOYEES FUTURE SHOULD THE BOARD DECIDE TO DO DUE DILIGENCE WITH RESURGENCE; EASTMAN ADVISED THEY HAD NEVER HAD A LAYOFF THAT WAS ASSOCIATED WITH A PURCHASE OF A FACILITY AND THERE IS NOTHING PLANNED WITH NWFCH OF ANY TYPE OF LAYOFFS OR REDUCTION IN FORCE ASSOCIATED WITH THE PURCHASE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN QUESTIONED IF RESURGENCE WOULD ACCEPT THE AMBULANCE SERVICE AS WELL AS THE SUBSTATION IN VERNON; EASTMAN ADVISED HE PROPOSED TO TAKE THE AMBULANCE SERVICE AS PART OF THE SALE AND HE STILL STANDS BY THIS; ON THE SUBSTATIONS, HE WOULD LOOK TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICE TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION ON TAKING OVER ANY SUBSTATIONS. CHAIRMAN CORBIN REFERENCED THE COUNTY LOOKING AT A SUBSTATION ON HIGHWAY 77 AROUND SUNNY HILLS AND WOULD LIKE FOR RESURGENCE TO LOOK AT TAKING IT ALSO. EASTMAN REFERENCED WASHINGTON COUNTY HAVING THE SAME POPULATION AS PUTNAM COUNTY AND RESURGENCE MAINTAINS THREE AMBULANCE SUBSTATIONS THERE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN QUESTIONED IF RESURGENCE WOULD BE WILLING TO PAY AD VALOREM TAX ASSESSMENTS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY; EASTMAN ADVISED RESURGENCE WOULD PAY AD VALOREM TAXES.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT RESURGENCE HAVING SOLD SEVERAL HOSPITALS IN THE PAST; MORE OR LESS LIKE THEY WERE IN THE REAL ESTATE BUSINESS OF BUYING THEM, BUILDING THEM AND THEN SELLING THEM. HE QUESTIONED EASTMAN IF THE COUNTY DID DUE DILIGENCE WITH THEM, WOULD THEY PROVIDE SOMETHING IN THE CONTRACT TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY SO IF IT SOLD IT WOULD GO BACK TO THE COUNTY AT FAIR MARKET VALUE PRICE. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED COMMISSIONER BROCK, THE SAME CLAUSE WAS IN THIS PROPOSAL AS IN RESURGENCE'S PROPOSAL IN FEBRUARY; THE COUNTY WOULD HAVE THE RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.

COMMISSIONER BROCK THEN ADDRESSED ANOTHER IMPORTANT CONCERN WAS THE TYPE OF MEDICAL SERVICE TO BE PROVIDED AT THE EMERGENCY ROOM, WHETHER THEY ARE BOARD CERTIFIED AND IF DOCTORS ARE VERY SKILLED DOCTORS; HE REFERENCED RESURGENCE'S LAST PROPOSAL AS HE RECALLED WOULD REQUIRE BOARD CERTIFIED.

EASTMAN ADVISED HE THINKS ALL OF THEIR PHYSICIANS WORKING IN THE ER ARE ACLS CERTIFIED; THEY JUST DON'T MAKE IT A REQUIREMENT GOING IN. EASTMAN AGREED IF THE BOARD WAS WANTING THE PHYSICIANS ACLS CERTIFIED GOING IN, HE COULD ENDORSE THIS.

COMMISSIONER BROCK SAID IF PHYSICIANS WERE REQUIRED TO BE BOARD CERTIFIED, THEY WOULD BE QUALIFIED TO DO CERTAIN PROCEDURES.

EASTMAN POINTED OUT TO BE QUALIFIED TO DO CERTAIN PROCEDURES, A PHYSICIAN WOULD NEED PROJECTIVE CREDENTIALS BY THE MEDICAL STAFF OF THE BOARD AND THIS MAY NOT MEAN THE SAME THING AS BEING BOARD CERTIFIED. IF SOMEONE HAS BEEN TRAINED TO DO A CERTAIN TYPE OF SURGERY, THE MEDICAL STAFF MAY ALLOW THEM TO DO THE SURGERY AND SO WOULD THE BOARD; HOWEVER, THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN THEY ARE A BOARD CERTIFIED PHYSICIAN.

COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED THE EMPLOYEES AT NWFCH CURRENTLY BEING UNDER THE FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND QUESTIONED WHERE THEY STAND; EASTMAN ADVISED THE LAW WILL TELL THEM WHETHER THEY CAN ROLL THEM INTO THEIR 401K PLAN OR NOT AND IT WILL BE WHAT THE LAW REQUIRES. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADDRESSED THIS BEING AN ISSUE TO BE TAKEN CARE OF DURING DUE DILIGENCE.

MS. THOMPSON SAID IT WOULD CERTAINLY BE RESURGENCE'S PREFERENCE TO ROLL THE EMPLOYEES OVER TO THEIR 401K PLAN.

COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED ONE OF THE AMBULANCE SERVICES AT THE MONTEZUMA, GEORGIA FACILITY WAS A COUNTY AMBULANCE AND ONE WAS A PRIVATE AMBULANCE SERVICE. MS. THOMPSON ADVISED RESURGENCE WAS A NEUTRAL PARTY AND MAINTAINS A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH BOTH SERVICES.

COMMISSIONER COPE QUESTIONED IF A 911 CALL CAME IN, WHICH AMBULANCE WOULD RESPOND. MS. THOMPSON ADVISED THAT 911 IS MAINTAINED BY THE COUNTY BUT IS NOT SURE HOW THE 911 OPERATOR ROUTES THE CALL AS THEY ARE NOT INVOLVED WITH THIS.

COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING THE COUNTY AMBULANCE IS NOT ALLOWED TO GO OUTSIDE THE COUNTY. MS. THOMPSON ADDRESSED IT WAS VERY COMMON FOR COUNTY AMBULANCES NOT TO BE ALLOWED TO GO OUTSIDE THE COUNTY.

EASTMAN SAID HE THOUGHT THE REASON FOR COMMISSIONER COPE'S QUESTIONS WAS THE AMBULANCE SERVICES HOUSE THEIR VEHICLES ON RESURGENCE'S PROPERTY; THOMPSON AND EASTMAN ADVISED THIS HAD BEEN BEING DONE PRIOR TO THEIR BECOMING INVOLVED WITH THE FACILITY AND THEY WOULDN'T WANT TO HARM THE RELATIONSHIP. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADDRESSED THIS WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE THE COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE CAN'T GO OUTSIDE THE COUNTY BUT THE PRIVATE SERVICE CAN. THOMPSON SAID THE COUNTY AMBULANCE CAN TRANSPORT OUT OF THE COUNTY BUT THEY CAN'T GO OUT OF THE COUNTY TO PICK UP.

COMMISSIONER COPE THEN QUESTIONED THE MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR THE HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES; EASTMAN ADVISED THEY CURRENTLY PROVIDE BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF ALABAMA AND GEORGIA INSURANCE WITH THE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTING A SMALL PERCENTAGE AND RESURGENCE PROVIDING THE VAST MAJORITY OF COST. WHEN COPE QUESTIONED IF IT WOULDN'T BE BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF FLORIDA, THOMPSON ADVISED IT VERY WELL COULD BE BUT THEY PROBABLY WILL COME IN AND DECIDE WHICH AREA CAN PROVIDE THE BROADEST COVERAGE TO THE EMPLOYEES; THEY HAVEN'T DONE ANY RESEARCH ON WHAT AREA PLAN OPTIONS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA ARE AND WHICH ONES MAY OFFER THE BEST POSSIBLE RANGE OF SERVICE. SHE FURTHER EXPLAINED IN THEIR ACQUISITIONS, THEY ALWAYS PRESENT SIDE BY SIDE COMPARISONS AFTER THEY HAVE DONE DUE DILIGENCE, SO THE EMPLOYEES CAN SEE WHAT THEY HAVE, WHAT SCOPE OF SERVICE THEY HAD BEFORE AND WHAT THEY WERE PAYING FOR IT AND WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO GET IN TERMS OF SCOPE OF PRODUCT AND HOW MUCH THEY ARE GOING TO PAY. THEY HAVE FOUND IN EVERY CASE THE EMPLOYEE GETS AT LEAST THE SAME, AND SOMETIMES BETTER, SCOPE OF BENEFITS THAN WHAT THEY HAD. RESURGENCE LOOKS FOR THE PLAN THAT WILL WORK BEST FOR THE EMPLOYEES.

COMMISSIONER FINCH STATED HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH RESURGENCE MONTHS AGO AND IS STILL IMPRESSED; HE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO EASTMAN AND THOMPSON FOR COMING AND SHARING THE INFORMATION WITH THE BOARD. HE FEELS IT IS A GOOD PLAN AND THEY ARE OFFERING A REALISTIC PLAN TO MOVE FORWARD IN WASHINGTON COUNTY.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED THE BOARD HAVING A PIECE OF PROPERTY THEY HAD MADE A COMMITMENT TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ON THAT MAY HAVE TO BE TAKEN OUT; HE ASKED EASTMAN IF THIS WOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE. EASTMAN AGREED HE THOUGHT THEY HAD AGREED ON CARVING OUT A PIECE OF PROPERTY FOR THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

EASTMAN THEN ADDRESSED HIM UNDERSTANDING SACRED HEART HAS PULLED OUT, THIS WAS HIS SECOND PRESENTATION AND HE QUESTIONED WHAT THE PROCESS WAS AND WHAT WAS NEXT.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED HE HAD GOTTEN A LETTER FROM RESURGENCE'S ATTORNEY AND REPLIED TONIGHT'S MEETING WAS NOT PART OF DUE DILIGENCE; THIS MEETING WAS FOR THE BOARD TO DECIDE IF THEY WANTED TO GO INTO DUE DILIGENCE WITH THEM. WHEN QUESTIONED BY HOLLEY ON HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE TO DO DUE DILIGENCE, EASTMAN ADVISED THE WORST CASE SCENARIO WOULD BE 60 TO 90 DAYS TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ASKED ATTORNEY HOLLEY IF THE BOARD WAS REQUIRED BY STATUTE TO GO INTO DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS WITH THEM SINCE THEY WERE SECOND ON THE SHORT LIST WITH SACRED HEART BEING FIRST; HE REFERENCED A LETTER BEING SENT TO RESURGENCE EXPLAINING SACRED HEART WAS PICKED AS THE FIRST FIRM.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THE BOARD NEEDED TO VOTE TO ENTER INTO DUE DILIGENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESURGENCE AND SIGN A LETTER OF AGREEMENT TO THAT AFFECT OR REJECT THEIR BID AND GO WITH A NEW BID THEY SOLICIT. HE ADVISED THEM

THEY NEEDED TO MAKE A DECISION ON RESURGENCE'S PROPOSAL PRIOR TO OPENING ANY NEW BIDS WHICH ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 24TH.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN VOICED HIS OPINION THE BOARD OWES IT TO RESURGENCE AS WELL AS TO THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTY TO AT LEAST GO INTO DUE DILIGENCE TO SEE IF SOMETHING CAN BE WORKED OUT.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THE COUNTY HAVING GONE THROUGH THIS PROCESS BEFORE AND SOLD THE HOSPITAL AND IT WAS A NIGHTMARE FOR THEM; THEY HAD TO TAKE THE HOSPITAL BACK. HE STATED HE WANTS TO BE VERY SURE WHEN HE VOTES AND WANTS TO BE CONFIDENT THIS DEAL WILL WORK AND WANTS TO LOOK AT EVERY ASPECT. HE ASKED RESURGENCE TO COME BACK AS THEIR PROPOSAL LOOKS GOOD BUT THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER PEOPLE WHO WANTS TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS COUNTY.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED ATTORNEY HOLLEY TO UPDATE THE BOARD ON WHAT HAPPENED WITH NATIONAL HEALTH CARE, WHO WAS THE FIRM THAT COMMISSIONER BROCK WAS REFERENCING HAD PURCHASED THE HOSPITAL PREVIOUSLY.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY EXPLAINED NATIONAL HEALTH CARE WANTED OUT; RIGHT AFTER THEY PURCHASED THE HOSPITAL, THEY FOLDED AND WENT BANKRUPT AND WANTED OUT; THEY GOT OUT BY CONTENDING THE BOARD DIDN'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO SELL IT TO THEM. THE COUNTY GOT A SPECIAL ACT PASSED THAT CLEARLY AUTHORIZED THE BOARD TO SELL THE FACILITY BUT THEY STILL WANTED OUT.

COMMISSIONER BROCK REFERENCED THE BOARD WHEN RESURGENCE PRESENTED THEIR FIRST PROPOSAL HAVING REQUESTED A FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND THEY DIDN'T HAVE ONE AND HAD ADVISED IT WOULD BE MAY OR JUNE BEFORE THEY HAD ONE. HE ADDRESSED THE FIRST THING SOMEONE WANTS TO KNOW WHEN SOMEONE IS INTERESTED IN PURCHASING A HOSPITAL IS WHAT HAS THE PERSON GOT, WHAT ARE THEY WORTH, ARE THEY GOING TO BUY ON CREDIT, ETC.

MS. THOMPSON ADVISED THIS WOULD BE PART OF DUE DILIGENCE.

COMMISSIONER BROCK SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE WHAT IS BEING OFFERED TO THE COUNTY AND SINCE THE 24TH OF OCTOBER IS NOT THAT FAR AWAY, HE WOULD LIKE TO GO AHEAD AND THEN MAKE A SELECTION FOR DUE DILIGENCE.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED RESURGENCE WOULD NEED TO RESUBMIT A PROPOSAL IF THIS WERE DONE.

EASTMAN ADVISED THEY CAME IN SECOND IN A TWO MAN RACE AND THERE WAS NO USE TO SUBMIT THE FINANCIAL INFORMATION AT THAT POINT; HOWEVER, THEY HAVE THE AUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

EASTMAN ALSO POINTED OUT THE BOARD HAD ASKED FOR BIDS, A DEAD-LINE, EVEN A SPECIFIC TIME TO GET IT IN; THEY HAVE COMPLIED AND NOW THE RULES ARE BEING CHANGED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GAME WITH EVERYBODY NOW KNOWING WHAT THEIR BID IS ON THE HOSPITAL AND THIS IS NOT FAIR.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THE RULES HADN'T BEEN CHANGED TO A CERTAIN DEGREE; THE BOARD HAD PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED TO SALE OR LEASE AND THEY CHOSE TO SALE BUT WHO IS TO SAY IF THEY ARE GOING TO SALE NOW; THEY MAY KEEP THE HOSPITAL BEFORE IT IS OVER WITH.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY POINTED OUT TO EASTMAN THAT HE CHOSE TO COME AND PRESENT A PROPOSAL; THE BOARD DID NOT REQUIRE HIM TO DO IT. ALSO, AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, THE INITIAL BID IS THE BID THAT WAS ON THE TABLE AND THE PROPOSAL ADDRESSED TODAY WAS SOMETHING THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE DURING DUE DILIGENCE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF ANYONE IN THE PUBLIC HAD ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS FOR MR. EASTMAN.

JIM KENT, REPRESENTING A GROUP OF CONCERNED CITIZENS, ADDRESSED THE BOARD STATING THE GROUP STILL WANTED TO SEE WHAT IS RIGHT FOR THE BEST OF WASHINGTON COUNTY; MR. EASTMAN CAME AND MADE AN OFFER AND HE WAS THE HIGHEST BID IN THE BEGINNING BUT WAS VOTED OUT. HE STATED THE BOARD OWED IT TO THE COUNTY TO ENTER INTO DUE DILIGENCE WITH RESURGENCE AS HE DOESN'T FEEL THEY ARE GOING TO GET A BETTER OFFER. HE REFERENCED THE BOARD KEEPS SAYING THEY WANT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL BUSINESS AND WANTS THE POLITICS OUT OF IT; THIS IS THEIR OPPORTUNITY.

COMMISSIONER HALL COMMENTED THAT MR. KENT DIDN'T WANT TO SELL THE HOSPITAL AT ALL BEFORE AND NOW HE HAS CHANGED HIS MIND; KENT ADVISED RESURGENCE IS

OFFERING MORE THAN SACRED HEART; THEY HAVE THE CREDENTIALS FROM WHAT THEY HAVE SEEN AND ARE WILLING TO LET THE LOCAL COMMUNITY BE INVOLVED WITH THE HOSPITAL, WHICH THEY HAVE NOT BEEN IN EIGHT YEARS.

COMMISSIONER HALL ALSO REFERENCED KENT HAVING PUT SOMETHING IN THE NEWSPAPER THAT WAS NOT CORRECT ON THE HOSPITAL HAVING BEEN FOR SALE IN 1998; COMMISSIONER HALL ADVISED KENT HE CAN'T PROVIDE THE PUBLIC ANY EVIDENCE THE HOSPITAL WAS FOR SALE IN 1996 OR 1998.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED ALBERT DAVIS HAVING A PROPOSAL TO SELL THE HOSPITAL AT ONE TIME WITH COMMISSIONER HALL ADVISING IT NEVER CAME BEFORE THE BOARD.

KENT REFERENCED A LETTER THAT WAS SENT TO A CORPORATION IN TENNESSEE BY THE HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES OFFERING TO OPEN THE BOOKS TO THEM AND HE COULD PRODUCE A COPY OF THE LETTER IF THE NEWSPAPER STILL HAS A COPY OF THE AD HE RAN.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN SAID AT THE TIME DAVIS GOT THE PROPOSAL, THE HOSPITAL BOARD DID NOT WANT TO SELL THE HOSPITAL BECAUSE THEY WERE MAKING MONEY; COMMISSIONER HALL SAID HOME HEALTH IS WHAT MADE THE MONEY FOR THE HOSPITAL.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN AND COMMISSIONER FINCH ASKED THE BOARD TO ENTER INTO DUE DILIGENCE WITH RESURGENCE. COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED THE BOARD NOT HAVING THE MONEY TO PAY FOR THE DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS THEY WENT THROUGH WITH SACRED HEART; IF THEY ACCEPT RESURGENCE OFFER TO PAY ALL LIABILITES OF \$5.6 MILLION AND ADD THE \$3.2 MILLION THEY WOULDN'T HAVE TO BORROW, THEY WOULD BE AHEAD OF THE GAME BY \$8.8 MILLION. HE ALSO ADDRESSED RESURGENCE RESPONDED TO THE PROPOSAL THE BOARD WROTE UP AND QUESTIONED WHY THE BOARD WOULD BE AGAINST IT. COMMISSIONER FINCH THEN OFFERED A MOTION TO ENTER INTO A DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS WITH RESURGENCE HEALTH GROUP AND IF IT DON'T WORK OUT, GO BACK AND FINISH ADVERTISING FOR PROPOSALS. CHAIRMAN CORBIN TURNED HIS CHAIR OVER TO VICE-CHAIRMAN BROCK AND SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION FAILED WITH COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CORBIN FOR AND COMMISSIONERS HALL, BROCK AND COPE OPPOSED.

MS. THOMPSON ADDRESSED THE BOARD COMMENTING RESURGENCE MADE A PROPOSAL TO THEM TO ACQUIRE THE HOSPITAL AND IT IS VERY CLEAR THEIR PROPOSAL FROM A FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS STANDPOINT IS A MUCH BETTER OFFER THAN SACRED HEART'S PROPOSAL.

SHE STATED IT WAS CONCERNING TO HER, IN ANTICIPATION OF RESUBMITTING A PROPOSAL, TO BE DEALING WITH A GROUP OF PEOPLE THAT DELIBERATELY SELECTED A GROUP WITH A LESS DESIRABLE TRACT RECORD IN REGARD TO MANAGING THE HOSPITAL AND PRESENTED A LESS FAVORABLE BID. WHEN SHE LOOKS AT A DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS, SHE LOOKS AT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR TWO GROUPS OF PEOPLE TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER; IN VOTING TO NOT PROCEED WITH DUE DILIGENCE, SHE VOICED HER CONCERN, EVEN IF THEY RESUBMIT A PROPOSAL, THIS BOARD AS AN ENTITY DOES NOT HAVE ANY INTENTION TO GET TO KNOW THEM. SHE EMPHASIZED THEY WERE VERY INTERESTED IN THE COMMUNITY AND IT WAS DISCOURAGING; PEOPLE DON'T ALWAYS MAKE DECISIONS BASED ON FACTS.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN STATED HE WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE PERSONALLY WENT INTO DUE DILIGENCE WITH RESURGENCE, HAVE A FIRM COMMITMENT FROM THE BOARD AND A FIRM COMMITMENT FROM RESURGENCE; IF SOMETHING COULD HAVE BEEN REACHED DOWN THE LINE, DUE DILIGENCE COULD HAVE BEEN STOPPED; HOWEVER, IF THE BOARD WANTS TO GET THE ADVERTISEMENT IN FOR BIDS ON THE 24TH AND THEN MAKE A DECISION, HE WOULD HOPE RESURGENCE WOULD BID AGAIN AND THE BOARD WOULD CONSIDER THEIR BID.

JAN MORRIS QUESTIONED WHERE THE MONEY WAS COMING FROM TO KEEP THE HOSPITAL AFLOAT WHILE THE BOARD IS GOING THROUGH THE BID PROCESS AGAIN. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED THE CURRENT MANAGEMENT HAS NOT ASKED FOR ANY OPERATING MONIES AS OF THIS DATE AND HE WOULD HOPE THEY HAVE FUNDS TO CONTINUE WITH PAYROLL AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS.

JAN MASON QUESTIONED THE THREE BOARD MEMBERS WHO DIDN'T WANT TO ENTER INTO DUE DILIGENCE WITH RESURGENCE, WHAT INFORMATION THEY HAD OR WHAT MADE THEM THINK NOW THE HOSPITAL IS IN A WORSE FINANCIAL SITUATION THAN WHEN THEY FIRST ASKED FOR BIDS, THEY ARE GOING TO GET BETTER BIDS THAN THEY DID BEFORE.



COMMISSIONER BROCK SAID HE UNDERSTANDS THERE HAVE BEEN FIVE OR SIX BID PACKAGES PICKED UP AND HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHO THEY ARE; HE JUST WANTS TO TAKE A LOOK AT THEM. HE ALSO HAD WANTED CHAIRMAN CORBIN TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER OCTOBER 24TH MEETING TO HAVE RESURGENCE COME IN. HE REITERATED RESURGENCE HAD A VERY GOOD PACKAGE.

MS. MASON ADDRESSED HER HOPING THE BOARD HAD NOT DONE THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY AN INSERVICE; GENERALLY THE SECOND BIDDER DOESN'T COME BACK AGAIN.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED THE BOARD HAVING SENT THE SAME REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS OUT BEFORE WHETHER ANYBODY ASKED FOR THEM OR NOT AND QUESTIONED WHY THE BOARD THOUGHT ANYONE ELSE WOULD BE INTERESTED NOW WHEN THEY DIDN'T BID THE FIRST TIME. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THE RFP'S WAS ADVERTISED IN MORE PAPERS THAN BEFORE.

COMMISSIONER BROCK REFERENCED THE DAY AFTER SACRED HEART DID A PRESS RELEASE SAYING THEY WERE PULLING OUT THEIR PROPOSAL ON THE HOSPITAL, RESURGENCE FAXED A PROPOSAL OVERNIGHT. HE SAID IT HAD ONLY BEEN A WEEK AND SOMEONE IS WANTING TO SIGN A CONTRACT TONIGHT; HE WAS ONLY WANTING THEM TO WAIT THREE WEEKS TO SEE WHAT OTHER BIDS COME IN.

MS. NELL ROBERTS ADDRESSED THE BOARD QUESTIONING WHY THEY COULDN'T DO DUE DILIGENCE WITH MORE THAN ONE BIDDER AT A TIME; ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THAT WOULD NOT BE FAIR TO THE BIDDER TO DO THIS.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED WITH CHAIRMAN CORBIN EXPLAINING WHAT HE THOUGHT DUE DILIGENCE WAS AND QUESTIONED ATTORNEY HOLLEY IF THEY REJECTED THE #1 BIDDER AND WENT TO #2 AND REJECTED IT ALSO, COULD THEY GO BACK AND NEGOTIATE WITH #1. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THIS DIDN'T COME UNDER THE SAME STATUTE AS ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS; MOST LETTERS OF COMMITMENT TO DO DUE DILIGENCE, HE THINKS, HAS LANGUAGE NOT TO DO DUE DILIGENCE WITH MORE THAN ONE BIDDER AT A TIME.

WHEN QUESTIONED BY COMMISSIONER BROCK IF THEY COULD SEE WHAT PROPOSALS THEY GET, SELECT TWO TO LOOK AT AND THEN MAKE A DECISION FROM THE TWO, ATTORNEY HOLLEY SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW THE ANSWER.

COMMISSIONER FINCH AND COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THIS IS WHAT WAS DONE BEFORE; SACRED HEART AND RESURGENCE WAS SELECTED AND SACRED HEART PULLED OUT. COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED ATTORNEY HOLLEY IF THE BOARD WAS NOT STATUTORILY ACCOUNTABLE TO RESURGENCE AND OWE THEM SOMETHING MORE THAN WHAT THEY ARE GIVING THEM.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY SAID HE WAS SATISFIED THE BOARD WAS NOT STATUTORILY ACCOUNTABLE TO RESURGENCE AND THEY COULD DISMISS THEM; THIS IS NOT UNDER THE COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATION STATUTE.

BETH WITH THE BUGLE QUESTIONED COULDN'T THE BOARD BE IN DUE DILIGENCE NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESURGENCE AND IF THINGS DON'T WORK OUT, STILL LOOK AT THE PROPOSALS THAT COME IN ON THE 24TH. ATTORNEY HOLLEY STATED HE HAD ALREADY ADVISED THE BOARD THEY COULD DO THIS.

MS. MASON READDRESSED THE BOARD WITH A BIG CONCERN; SHE QUESTIONED IF THE BOARD HAD A SINGLE PROPOSAL RETURNED TO THEM. THE BOARD ADVISED HER THEY DID NOT HAVE ANY RETURNED TO DATE BUT PEOPLE HAVE UNTIL THE 24TH OF OCTOBER TO TURN THEM IN.

MS. MASON THEN QUESTIONED WHAT THE BOARD'S CONTINGENCY PLAN WAS SHOULD THEY NOT RECEIVE ANY BIDS OR ACCEPTABLE BIDS AND RESURGENCE DOESN'T WANT TO RESUBMIT.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN SAID HIM PERSONALLY, IF EVERYTHING FELL THROUGH, HE WOULD LOOK AT HIRING AN ADMINISTRATOR.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADVISED MS. MASON HE DIDN'T HAVE A PLAN BUT HE FEELS SINCE THE BOARD IS TURNING RESURGENCE DOWN, THERE HAS TO BE A PLAN SOMEWHERE HE IS NOT AWARE OF AND IT NOT BEING SHARED WITH ANYONE.

MS. MASON ADVISED IF THERE WAS A PLAN SHE THOUGHT THE BOARD SHOULD SHARE IT WITH THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE PLACED THEIR CONFIDENCE IN THEM TO RUN THE COUNTY AND THE HOSPITAL; OTHERWISE, SHE WOULD SUGGEST THEY GET A PLAN BECAUSE SHE FEELS IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THEY ARE NOT GOING TO GET A BETTER DEAL THAN WHAT

RESURGENCE HAS OFFERED. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE, RESURGENCE WANT OFFER THIS DEAL AGAIN.

COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED ALL THE DISCUSSION TODAY HAS BEEN ABOUT A DOLLAR; NOBODY HAS MENTIONED QUALITY HEALTH CARE; THEY COULD PROBABLY MAKE SOME MONEY ON THE HOSPITAL IF THEY ARE LOOKING AT IT FROM A REAL ESTATE BUSINESS.

COMMISSIONER FINCH AND MS. MASON SAID QUALITY HEALTH CARE WAS COVERED IN RESURGENCE'S PROPOSAL.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED WHY THE BOARD COULD DECIDE TO ENTER INTO DUE DILIGENCE WITH SACRED HEART WITH THE DEAL THEY OFFERED AND CAN'T ENTER INTO DUE DILIGENCE WITH RESURGENCE ON WHAT THEY ARE PRESENTING TODAY AS IT SEEMS RESURGENCE OFFER IS MUCH BETTER. HE THEN ASKED MR. EASTMAN IF THERE WAS ANY WAY HE COULD RE-ENFORCE RESURGENCE IS GOING TO PROVIDE QUALITY HEALTH CARE.

MR. EASTMAN ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON THERE BEING TWO WAYS TO MEASURE QUALITY HEALTH CARE; ONE IS THE PHYSICIANS AND THE OTHER IS TALK WITH THE PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY AND THE REFERENCES THEY HAVE PROVIDED TO DETERMINE THE QUALITY HEALTH CARE THEY PROVIDE.

EASTMAN ALSO EMPHASIZED QUALITY HEALTH CARE IS WHEN PHYSICIANS IN THE COMMUNITY BACK AND SUPPORT YOU WITH THEIR BUSINESS; NWFCH DOES NOT HAVE A HOSPITAL, THEY HAVE A FIRSTAID STATION. NWFCH'S QUALITY CARE BASED ON THEIR ACTIVITY IS DANGEROUSLY LOW FROM WHERE IT SHOULD BE. THE BEST MEASURE OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE THE BOARD IS GOING TO HAVE FOR RESURGENCE IS VISIBILITY WITH THE PEOPLE IN THEIR FACILITY, TALK WITH THE PHYSICIANS IN THEIR FACILITIES.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ASKED EASTMAN HOW DID NWFCH GET TO BE A FIRST AID STATION IN HIS VIEWPOINT. EASTMAN ADVISED IT WAS DUE TO LACK OF SUPPORT IN THE COMMUNITY AND THE PHYSICIANS FOR THE HOSPITAL.

COMMISSIONER BROCK THEN ASKED WHAT DID IT TAKE TO MAKE A HOSPITAL; EASTMAN ADVISED PHYSICIANS WITH COMMISSIONER BROCK SAYING THE COMMUNITY HAS TO HAVE TRUST IN THE PHYSICIANS AND THAT IS WHAT IS NEEDED AT THE HOSPITAL. EASTMAN ADVISED THAT RESURGENCE WOULD BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE THIS.

COMMISSIONER HALL ASKED IF RESURGENCE TOOK THE AMBULANCE SERVICE AND DID EVERYTHING THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO DO, COULD THE BOARD FORCE THEM NOT TO FILE BANKRUPTCY. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THE BOARD CAN'T FORCE ANYBODY NOT TO FILE BANKRUPTCY.

EASTMAN REITERATED WHAT ATTORNEY HOLLEY HAD SAID; NOBODY CAN BE FORCED NOT TO FILE BANKRUPTCY.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN POINTED OUT ISSUES ABOUT RESURGENCE'S PROPOSAL THAT HE LIKED; ACLS CERTIFIED EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIANS BEING PROVIDED, THEIR PAYING AD VALOREM TAXES ON THE HOSPITAL, THEIR TAKING UP THE OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES. HE REITERATED HE HOPED THEY WOULD COME BACK AND PROVIDE ANOTHER QUOTE.

COMMISSIONER FINCH QUESTIONED WHAT THE BOARD IS GOING TO SEE IN THE NEXT PROPOSALS TO OPEN THEIR EYES; HE REITERATED THERE IS SOMETHING ALL OF THE BOARD IS NOT PRIVILEGED TO KNOW OR THEY WOULD GO WITH RESURGENCE'S OFFER.

MS. ROBERTS QUESTIONED IF THE BOARD WAS IN A PROPOSAL WITH SOMEONE ELSE NOW THAT WOULD CAUSE THEM NOT TO LOOK AT RESURGENCE'S PROPOSAL. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED HER THE BOARD WAS NOT IN A PROPOSAL WITH SOMEONE ELSE. MS. ROBERTS THEN QUESTIONED WHY THEY WERE NOT GOING TO LOOK AT RESURGENCE'S PROPOSAL.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED HER THE BOARD HAD TAKEN ACTION AT THEIR LAST BOARD MEETING TO ADVERTISE FOR LEASE OR SALE OF THE HOSPITAL.

JAN MORRIS QUESTIONED HOW MANY MONTHS THE BOARD WAS IN DUE DILIGENCE WITH SACRED HEART; COMMISSIONER BROCK ADVISED HER FOUR MONTHS; SHE QUESTIONED HOW MUCH MONEY WAS LOST DURING THAT TIME WITH COMMISSIONER FINCH REFERENCING THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY RESURGENCE SHOWED \$300,000 PLUS WAS LOST FROM FEBRUARY TO JULY AND THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE DEBTS INCURRED FOR THE APPRAISAL AND OTHER THINGS.

MORRIS REFERENCED THE BOARD HAVING LOST APPROXIMATELY \$500,000 WHILE DOING DUE DILIGENCE WITH SACRED HEART, SACRED HEART PULLED OUT AND THEY ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO INCUR DEBT WHILE GOING THROUGH THE BID PROCESS AGAIN.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED MORRIS IF THE HOSPITAL ISN'T PROFITABLE DURING THE NEXT MONTH OR SO WHILE THE BOARD IS GOING THROUGH THE PROCESS, THEY WILL BE LOSING MORE MONEY.

MIKE GURSPAN ASKED IF THERE WAS A FINE LINE AMOUNT WHERE THE BOARD WILL SAY THEY WANT SUBSIDIZE THE HOSPITAL ANYMORE OR IF THERE WAS A LEGALITY WHERE THE BOARD IS OBLIGATED NO MATTER HOW MANY DOLLARS THEY GO IN DEBT. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED IT WAS A COUNTY HOSPITAL AND THE TAXPAYERS HOSPITAL; THE HOSPITAL BOARD GETS A FINANCIAL REPORT DETAILING HOW MUCH IS LOST EACH MONTH AND HE KNOWS THEY CAN'T CONTINUE TO LOSE MONEY.

CLERK LINDA COOK SPOKE AS A CITIZEN AND NOT AS THE CLERK THAT SHE DOESN'T THINK THE BOARD IS GOING TO GET ANY MORE PROPOSALS; IF THEY WERE, THEY WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THEM IN THE BEGINNING AND SHE FEELS THEY ARE BEING VERY UNFAIR TO RESURGENCE.

PAUL GORDY ADDRESSED THE BOARD STATING THE MORE HE LISTENS THE MORE CONFUSED HE GETS. HE QUESTIONED HOW LONG THE HOSPITAL HAD BEEN OPERATING IN WASHINGTON COUNTY AND WAS ADVISED ABOUT 52 TO 53 YEARS. HE THEN REFERENCED A STATEMENT FROM PEOPLE ON THE BOARD SAYING THEY WANT TO GIVE PEOPLE BETTER HEALTH CARE; FOR ABOUT 48 TO 49 YEARS THE LOCAL DOCTORS, DR. CRAVEN, DR. SLOAN, DR. MELVIN, DR. SNARE AND DR. CLEMMONS HAS BEEN PROVIDING GOOD HEALTH CARE. WHEN HE QUESTIONED COMMISSIONER COPE ON THIS, COPE ADDRESSED NOT AS GOOD OF HEALTH CARE AS THE COUNTY COULD HAVE AND THEY DON'T DO ANY ORTHOPEDIC CARE.

GORDY THEN ADDRESSED THE BOARD HAVING A COMPANY COME IN TO THE HOSPITAL AND TELL THEM THEY COULD GIVE THE COUNTY BETTER HEALTH CARE AND COULD MANAGE THEIR OPERATIONS REAL WELL; THE HOSPITAL HAD \$4,000,000 IN THE BANK AT THAT TIME AND THAT COMPANY HAS OPERATED IT FOR ABOUT 3.5 YEARS AND THEY NOW HAVE NOTHING IN THE BANK AND ABOUT \$1.5 MILLION DOLLARS IN DEBT. HE STATED WHEN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HOSPITAL WERE TURNED OVER TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GOT INTO POLITICS AND THIS IS WHEN THE TROUBLE BEGAN.

GORDY SAID WHEN THERE WERE CITIZENS RUNNING THE HOSPITAL, THERE WERE NO PROBLEMS BUT POLITICS CAME IN; THE BOARD IS GOING TO HAVE TO NEGOTIATE WITH SOMEONE AGAIN OR TAKE THE HOSPITAL OVER AND APPOINT AN ADMINISTRATOR AND LET THEM RUN IT AND HOPE THEY CAN BREAK EVEN. HE TOLD THE BOARD THEY HAD AN OBLIGATION DUE TO THEM NOT HAVING DONE A GOOD JOB AS FAR AS THE HOSPITAL IS CONCERNED; THEY HAVE DONE A GREAT JOB ON ROADS AND OTHER THINGS. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THEY HAD A FINE GROUP OF DOCTORS IN THE COMMUNITY AND IF THE BOARD CAN GET THEM TOGETHER AND COOPERATE, GIVE THEM A FACILITY THEY CAN USE TO TREAT THEIR PATIENTS, THEY WILL ONCE AGAIN HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL HOSPITAL. THE PEOPLE SUPPORTED IT AT ONE TIME AND THEY WILL DO IT AGAIN IF THE BOARD WILL GIVE THEM A CHANCE.

COMMISSIONER HALL QUESTIONED GORDY IN HIS OPINION WAS IT ALRIGHT TO SALE THE HOSPITAL. GORDY SAID PERSONALLY HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT RUN SUCCESSFULLY AS IT WAS RUN FOR 48 YEARS; HOWEVER, RESURGENCE PLAN IS ABOUT \$8 MILLION BETTER THAN THE PLAN SACRED SACRED HEART OFFERED THE BOARD. PEOPLE ARE WONDERING WHY THREE COMMISSIONERS HAVE GOT THEIR FEET IN CONCRETE AND CAN NOT MAKE A DECISION; ON EVERY VOTE, IT HAS BEEN 3 TO 2.

COMMISSIONER HALL REMINDED MR. GORDY THE LAST TIME HE HAD TALKED TO HIM HE HAD SAID HE WOULD VOTE AGAINST HIM IF HE VOTED TO SALE THE HOSPITAL; GORDY SAID HE HAD TOLD HALL IF HE GOT RID OF THE HOSPITAL THE PEOPLE WOULD GIT RID OF HIM AND WHOEVER VOTED WITH HIM NEXT ELECTION.

COMMISSIONER HALL REASKED HIS QUESTION TO GORDY ABOUT BEING IN AGREEMENT TO SELL THE HOSPITAL NOW; GORDY REITERATED HIS FIRST CHOICE WOULD BE FOR THE COUNTY TO TAKE IT OVER AND RUN IT THEMSELVES; THE NEXT CHOICE WOULD BE TAKE THE NEXT BEST BET WHICH IS WHAT RESURGENCE HAS DONE. WHEN GORDY QUESTIONED COMMISSIONER HALL ON WHAT HE WANTED TO DO, COMMISSIONER HALL SAID HE WANTED WHAT WAS BEST FOR THE CITIZENS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY.

COMMISSIONER HALL THEN ADDRESSED HIM HAVING ASKED ATTORNEY HOLLEY ABOUT RESURGENCE COULD PROMISE ANYTHING BUT THEY DON'T HAVE TO FULFILL THEM. GORDY

REFERENCED THE BOARD HAVING SPENT A HALF MILLION DOLLARS NEGOTIATING WITH SACRED HEART AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THEY WERE GOING TO OFFER. COMMISSIONER HALL REFERENCED EVERYBODY WAS WANTING A PUBLIC HEARING BUT THEY COULDN'T SPEAK TO THE PUBLIC HEARING DUE TO NOT KNOWING WHAT THE END WAS GOING TO BE.

GORDY ADVISED THEY HAD A PUBLIC HEARING AT THE AG CENTER AND COMMISSIONER HALL DIDN'T SHOW UP; COMMISSIONER HALL AGREED HE DIDN'T SHOW UP AND HE HAD SOME QUESTIONS FOR MR. KENT AND WISHED HE HADN'T LEFT.

COMMISSIONER BROCK STATED WASHINGTON COUNTY HAS NOT SPENT A HALF MILLION DOLLARS WHILE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SACRED HEART; SACRED HEART HAS SPENT A HALF MILLION. MR. GORDY REQUESTED A COPY OF THE CHECK WHERE SACRED HEART SPENT THIS MONEY AND REFERENCED THE PAPER SAYING SACRED HEART WAS PAYING \$250,000 AND WASHINGTON COUNTY WAS PAYING \$250,000.

COMMISSIONER HALL ADVISED MR. GORDY THERE WERE 89% OF THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTY WHO DO NOT SUPPORT THE HOSPITAL; THE 11% THAT DOES USE IT, USE IT FOR LAB AND EXRAYS. AS FAR AS SERVICES, THERE WERE BABIES BEING BORN IN THE 50'S BUT IT GOT WHERE THERE WERE NO SERVICES; ONLY A BUILDING AND BEDS. GORDY ASKED COMMISSIONER HALL IF HE KNEW WHY THE DOCTORS WERE NOT PUTTING PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL NOW.

COMMISSIONER HALL SAID IF THE BOARD DISAGREES WITH THE DOCTORS, THEY BOYCOTT THE HOSPITAL; IF THE BOARD TRIES TO IMPROVE THINGS OR CHANGE THINGS, WHICH IS WHAT THEY DID, THE DOCTORS BOYCOTT.

MR. GORDY RECOMMENDED COMMISSIONER HALL GO BACK AND DO RESEARCH; THIS IS NOT THE TRUTH. COMMISSIONER HALL SAID HE HAD BEEN SITTING ON THE HOSPITAL BOARD FOR ABOUT SEVEN YEARS AND HE KNOWS WHAT HE IS TALKING ABOUT.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN STATED IT HAS BEEN PROVEN MONEY COULD BE MADE AT THE HOSPITAL; THE TAXPAYERS HAS NEVER PUT A DIME IN THE HOSPITAL EXCEPT \$50,000 FOR A NEW ROOF AND THE UPFRONT MONEY FOR BUILDING A NEW HOSPITAL AND THEY GET \$12,000 A YEAR RACE TRACK MONEY. HE STATED THE HOSPITAL HAS BEEN RUN SUCCESSFULLY IN THE PAST; WHERE IT CAN AGAIN OR NOT, NOBODY KNOWS.

COMMISSIONER HALL STATED HE KNOWS AND COMMISSIONER CORBIN KNOWS HOME HEALTH IS WHAT MADE THE MONIES AT THE HOSPITAL. COMMISSIONER BROCK AGREED THAT PATIENTS WERE BEING PUT IN THE NURSING HOME, KEPT THERE THE LIMITED NUMBER OF DAYS AND THEN WERE RUN OUT.

GORDY QUESTIONED IF COMMISSIONER HALL AND BROCK WERE SAYING THE DOCTORS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY HAD NOT DONE A GOOD JOB; COMMISSIONER HALL QUESTIONED WHAT HE WAS CALLING A GOOD JOB AND STATED THE DOCTORS HAVE NOT SUPPORTED THE HOSPITAL THE LAST FOUR OR FIVE YEARS.

GORDY REITERATED IT WAS BECAUSE THEY HAD TO DEAL WITH THE COMMISSIONERS. COMMISSIONER HALL QUESTIONED IF GORDY WAS ON THE BOARD IN 1984 WITH GORDY RESPONDING HE WAS NOT BUT HE WAS ON THE BOARD WHEN THERE WAS A BIGGER FIGHT THAN WHAT IS BEING ADDRESSED TODAY; THAT WAS WHEN DR. WALTER SHEEHEE WAS OPERATING IN THE COUNTY.

COMMISSIONER COPE QUESTIONED THE HOSPITAL HAVING BEEN A FIGHT FOR 48 YEARS; GORDY SAID IT HAD NOT WITH COMMISSIONER HALL REFERENCING HIM SAYING IT HAD BEEN PEACHES AND CREAM FOR 48 YEARS.

GORDY THEN REITERATED WHAT CHAIRMAN CORBIN HAD SAID; THE COUNTY HAS NEVER PASSED ONE MILL FOR THE HOSPITAL AND THEY GOT STATE LAW TO HAVE THE RIGHT TO GET FIVE MILLS IN TAXES; NOT ONCE IN THE 48 YEARS THEY RAN IT, DID THEY PASS ONE MILL. GORDY SAID THEY MUST HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB BECAUSE THEY BROKE EVEN AND IT IS NOT SUPPOSE TO BE A FOR PROFIT HOSPITAL.

COMMISSIONER HALL STATED SERVICES NEEDED TO BE PROVIDED SO THE COMMUNITY WILL USE IT. GORDY ADDED THAT THEY PROVIDED PLENTY OF SERVICES.

COMMISSIONER COPE REMINDED GORDY THEY HAD BUILT A NEW HOSPITAL ONE TIME TO SOLVE A PROBLEM; THE SERVICES WENT DOWN HILL. GORDY SAID THE OVERHEAD WENT UP TWICE; REVENUES WERE CUT IN HALF AND HE PERSONALLY WAS NOT IN FAVOR OF BUILDING THE NEW HOSPITAL.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN REITERATED THE HOSPITAL WAS PAID FOR WITHOUT ANY TAXPAYERS MONEY EXCEPT THE UPFRONT MONEY; REVENUE BONDS WERE ISSUED ON THE GOOD FAITH OF THE HOSPITAL.

COMMISSIONER BROCK TOLD MR. GORDY IF THE DOCTORS HE HAD NAMED WOULD HAVE SUPPORTED THE HOSPITAL, THE BOARD WOULDN'T BE SITTING HERE TODAY. GORDY SAID THE PROBLEM BEGAN WHEN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COULD BE APPOINTED AND ACT AS TRUSTEES TO THE HOSPITAL; THEY HAD \$4 MILLION IN THE BANK AND WAS DOING GOOD AND THEN THEY HAD TO GET AN OUTFIT FROM PENSACOLA TO COME IN AND RUN THE HOSPITAL AND THIS IS WHERE THE MISTAKE WAS MADE.

COMMISSIONER BROCK TOLD GORDY IF HE HAD BEEN ON THE BOARD AND THE HOSPITAL WAS LOSING \$300,000 TO \$400,000 A MONTH, SOMETHING WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE AND IT WOULD BE EITHER TO CLOSE THE DOORS OR GET SOMEONE TO TRY AND DO SOMETHING. GORDY SAID HE COULD TAKE THE \$4,000,000 AND MAKE ENOUGH INTEREST TO COVER \$100,000 A MONTH LOSS. HE THANKED THE BOARD FOR LISTENING TO THE PEOPLE THERE TODAY; THEY REPRESENT THE CITIZENS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY AND HE HAS VOTED FOR THEM TO BE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND FEELS THEY HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB EXCEPT FOR THE HOSPITAL.

MR. CHARLES ROBERTS REFERENCED COMMISSIONER CORBIN AND FINCH HAVING VOTED IN FAVOR OF RESURGENCE AND COMMISSIONER BROCK HAVING TALKED ALOT MORE SO THAN COMMISSIONER HALL. HE QUESTIONED COMMISSIONER COPE WHAT HE HAD AGAINST RESURGENCE.

COMMISSIONER COPE SAID HE DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST RESURGENCE; HE DONE HIS HOMEWORK AND WAS NOT IN FAVOR OF THEM THE FIRST TIME THEY CAME. HE SUGGESTED EVERYBODY DO THEIR DUE DILIGENCE ON THEIR OWN AND TALK TO PEOPLE THAT HAS BEEN IN THEIR HOSPITAL IN MONTEZUMA. HE THEN ADDED HE DOESN'T FEEL THEY CAN PROVIDE THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE NEEDED.

WHEN QUESTIONED WHY MR. ROBERTS THOUGHT THE COUNTY NEEDED RESURGENCE, ROBERTS RESPONDED THEY HAD GIVEN THE BEST PROPOSAL HE HAD SEEN.

ROBERTS THEN QUESTIONED WHAT COMMISSIONER HALL HAD AGAINST RESURGENCE. COMMISSIONER HALL SAID HE DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST THEM AND WHAT THEY HAVE PROPOSED SOUNDS REAL GOOD; HOWEVER, THESE PEOPLE CAN COME IN 6 MONTHS, A YEAR, TWO YEARS AND FILE BANKRUPTCY LEAVING THE COUNTY TO GO BACK INTO THE AMBULANCE BUSINESS, THE HOSPITAL BUSINESS, ETC AND THE COUNTY WOULD BE TAKING A CHANCE IF THEY DO AN OUTRIGHT SALE. WHEN QUESTIONED BY ROBERTS IF THIS WOULDN'T BE THE CASE WITH ANY TRANSACTION, COMMISSIONER HALL AGREED WITH AN OUTRIGHT SALE IT WOULD. COMMISSIONER HALL ALSO STATED IT WAS GOING TO TAKE SOME KIND OF MONEY TO TURN THE HOSPITAL AROUND AND DOESN'T THINK RESURGENCE UNDERSTANDS THE SITUATION THEY WOULD BE COMING INTO IN CHIPLEY.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN SAID IF EASTMAN DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION WITH THEM BUYING AND SELLING HOSPITALS, THEY WOULDN'T BE VERY SUCCESSFUL LONG IF THEY DIDN'T DO THEIR HOMEWORK.

COMMISSIONER HALL REFERENCED EASTMAN SAYING RESURGENCE WAS GOING TO MAKE MONEY USING LOCAL DOCTORS. MR. EASTMAN ADDRESSED THE BOARD STATING IF REPLACEMENT WAS NEEDED, RESURGENCE WOULD DO IT RIGHT; IF THERE WAS ANGER WITH MANAGEMENT AND THE DOCTORS CAN'T COOPERATE, THEY WILL BE REPLACED.

COMMISSIONER HALL INFORMED EASTMAN THE LOCAL DOCTORS DON'T WANT ANY MORE DOCTORS BROUGHT IN; THEY SAY THERE IS NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE IN THE COUNTY TO SUPPORT ALL THE DOCTORS; RESURGENCE WILL BE JUST LIKE THE BOARD, THEY WON'T HAVE ANY SUPPORT. EASTMAN SAID THEY DON'T VOTE FOR HIM AND AGREED WITH COMMISSIONER HALL THAT THEY WOULD HAVE A LOT MORE LEADWAY THAN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BECAUSE THEY ARE PRIVATE AND NOT A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY. EASTMAN SAID THEY DIDN'T FACE THESE PROBLEMS BECAUSE THEY ARE PRIVATE BUT STATED THEY TREAT THEIR DOCTORS VERY WELL AND EDUCATE THEM IF A HOSPITAL IS TO BE SUCCESSFUL MORE DOCTORS ARE NEEDED.

COMMISSIONER COPE THEN QUESTIONED HOW MANY HOSPITALS HAD THEY OWNED; THOMPSON SAID THEY HAD OWNED 9; COMMISSIONER COPE QUESTIONED WHY THEY SOLD WITH EASTMAN ADVISING HE HAD A PARTNER WHO IS NOW 65 WHO HAD TO PULL OUT DUE TO HEALTH PROBLEMS AND HE COULDN'T AFFORD TO BUY THEM AND THEY HAD TO SELL THEM.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ASKED IF EASTMAN WOULD SAY HE WOULD LEASE THE HOSPITAL TODAY, WOULD THE BOARD BE INTERESTED IN LEASING IT TO THEM. COMMISSIONER HALL AND BROCK ADDRESSED THERE BEING PROPOSALS OUT NOW.

COMMISSIONER BROCK SAID HE WOULDN'T CONSIDER IT TODAY. HE HAS GOT NOTHING AGAINST RESURGENCE AS THEY HAVE A BRILLIANT PLAN BUT WANTS TO WAIT THREE WEEKS UNTIL THE OTHER PROPOSALS COME IN.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED EASTMAN IF HE PURCHASED THE HOSPITAL, WOULD HE KEEP THE SAME BYLAWS OR BRING HIS OWN BYLAWS. EASTMAN SAID THEY HAVE A SET OF BYLAWS THEY CURRENTLY OPERATE UNDER; IF DOCTORS DIDN'T WANT IT CHANGED, HE PROBABLY WOULDN'T BUT HE WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND IT.

COMMISSIONER HALL QUESTIONED WHO WAS GOING TO RUN THE HOSPITAL SHOULD RESURGENCE PURCHASE IT; EASTMAN ADVISED FARREL TURNER WOULD PROBABLY BE THE CEO TO BEGIN WITH AS AN INTERIM.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF EASTMAN WOULD HAVE TO KEEP THE PRESENT BYLAWS IF HE PURCHASED THE HOSPITAL; ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED HE WOULD NOT AS HE IS A PRIVATE ENTITY.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED THE CURRENT BYLAWS HAVING THE BOARDS HANDS TIED AND THEY CAN'T DO EVERYTHING THEY WOULD LIKE TO; HE DIDN'T KNOW IF THEY COULD DISMISS A PHYSICIAN IF THEY WANTED TO UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE; THE PHYSICIANS WOULD HAVE TO DISMISS A PHYSICIAN.

EASTMAN ADVISED THEY HAD A PROCEDURE WHERE THEY LIKE FOR THE MEDICAL STAFF TO DISCIPLINE THE CREDENTIALS OF A PHYSICIAN AND MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD; IF THERE IS A PROBLEM PHYSICIAN AND THEY DON'T TAKE ACTION, THE BOARD WILL. CHAIRMAN CORBIN QUESTIONED IF RESURGENCE RETAINED IN THEIR BYLAWS THEY HAD THE RIGHT TO DISMISS A PHYSICIAN IF THEY WANT TO; EASTMAN SAID ABSOLUTELY.

JAN MASON ASKED COMMISSIONER HALL IF THERE WERE ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HE FEELS HE COULD VOTE TO SUPPORT THE SALE OF THE HOSPITAL. COMMISSIONER HALL STATED MR. GORDY AND FOUR TO FIVE HUNDRED WERE AT THE AG CENTER A MONTH AGO STATING THEY WERE AGAINST THE SALE OF THE HOSPITAL AS WELL AS EVERYBODY WHO HAD CALLED HIM. MASON DISAGREED WITH COMMISSIONER HALL WITH HALL STATING HE WAS GOING BY WHAT HE READ IN THE PAPER.

COMMISSIONER FINCH SAID COMMISSIONER HALL VOTED TO SALE IT TO SACRED HEART; COMMISSIONER HALL SAID FOR A DOLLAR AND GET IT BACK FOR A DOLLAR, YOU CAN SAY IT WAS A SALE.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON ANY SALARY ADJUSTMENTS THE BOARD MAY WANT TO PROPOSE:

1. COMMISSIONER HALL HAD NO PROPOSALS ON SALARY ADJUSTMENTS
2. COMMISSIONER BROCK PROPOSED \$.50 PER HOUR FOR FELECIA REED AND JOHN RICHARDS
3. COMMISSIONER COPE HAD NO PROPOSALS ON SALARY ADJUSTMENTS
4. ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT ADDRESSED THE EMPLOYEES THE COMMITTEE HAD DISCUSSED BUT DIDN'T SET AN AMOUNT; THEY HAD JUST AGREED TO BRING IT BEFORE THE BOARD: JAMES PETERSON, LYNDA WALLER, SUSAN LAWSON AND DEBBIE RILEY. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER WANTED TO CLARIFY AS A COMMITTEE MEMBER SHE HAD SOME REMARKS TO MAKE ON POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENTS FOR THESE EMPLOYEES BUT SHE DIDN'T HAVE A RECOMMENDATION. COMMISSIONER COPE ADDRESSED WHEN THE BOARD STARTED MAKING EXCEPTIONS, THEY ARE GOING TO BE RIGHT BACK IN THE SAME POSITION THEY WERE IN TO BEGIN WITH.
5. CHAIRMAN CORBIN PROPOSED AN INCREASE FOR MALCOLM GAINNEY DUE TO WHEN HE WAS HIRED, THE BOARD HAD PROMISED HIM ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION AFTER HE HAD BEEN HERE A YEAR.
6. COMMISSIONER FINCH PROPOSED A SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR CHRIS ROBERTS

CLERK LINDA COOK ADDRESSED EVERYBODY OPTED TO GIVE A COUNTY WIDE 3% RAISE; THAT IS WHAT THEY ALL HAVE DONE AND WHAT SHE HAD TO GIVE HER EMPLOYEES. SHE

VOICED HER OPINION IT WAS NOT RIGHT THE BOARD IS CONSTANTLY COMING BACK TO SAY CERTAIN EMPLOYEES NEED MORE MONEY; THEY ALL NEED MORE.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED ONE OF THE PROBLEMS IN THE PAST WAS THE BOARD HAD PUT EMPHASIS AND PRIORITIES ON THINGS WHERE THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT THESE SALARIES AND MAKING THEM FIT MORE; HE ADDRESSED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT HAVING GOT A PRINTOUT WHERE THE PUBLIC WORKS PEOPLE WERE UNDERPAID COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTIES AND IT IS HARD TO RUN A FAMILY ON \$8.58 PER HOUR. HE ADDRESSED THE COM- MITTEE WAS TRYING TO FILL IN SOME GAPS THAT HAD BEEN MESSED UP.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER ADDRESSED WHEN SOME GAPS ARE FILLED, THERE WILL BE MORE THAT WILL COME UP.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN SAID LYNDA WALLER HAD NOT SAID ANYTHING ABOUT WANTING A SALARY INCREASE FOR HERSELF BUT WAS CONCERNED ABOUT AN INCREASE FOR HER SECRETARY BECAUSE SHE WAS DOING MORE WORK THAN MOST OF THE OTHER SECRETARIES.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT IF HE HAD A RECOM- MENDATION FOR A RAISE FOR JAMES PETERSON, LYNDA WALLER, DEBBIE RILEY AND SUSAN LAWSON. ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT RECOMMENDED LEAVING THEM WHERE THEY WERE AT.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON COMMISSIONER BROCK'S REQUEST FOR JOHN RICHARDS A \$.50 PER HOUR INCREASE DUE TO THERE BEING A BIG DIFFERENCE IN HIS AND CHRIS ROBERTS SALARY. IT WAS EXPLAINED TO COMMISSIONER BROCK THAT CHRIS ROBERTS HAD BEEN HERE SEVEN YEARS LONGER THAN JOHN RICHARDS AND THERE WAS ONLY \$1.50 PER HOUR DIFFERENCE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN ASKED IF THERE WAS A MOTION ON COMMISSIONER BROCK'S RECOMMENDATION FOR A \$.50 PER HOUR INCREASE FOR JOHN RICHARDS AND FELECIA REED; NO MOTION WAS MADE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN THEN REITERATED HIS REQUEST FOR MALCOLM GAINNEY AN INCREASE AS HE HAS DONE A GOOD JOB AND THE BOARD HAD MADE A COMMITMENT TO LOOK AT HIS SALARY AFTER BEING HERE A YEAR. COMMISSION- ER COPE AGREED HE HAD DONE A GOOD JOB AND ASKED GAINNEY IF HE HAD GOTTEN AN INCREASE AFTER BEING EMPLOYED FOR SIX MONTHS; GAINNEY ADVISED HE HAD NOT GOTTEN AN INCREASE.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED THE BOARD HAVING HIRED GAINNEY A GOOD ASSISTANT TO HELP DO A LOT OF THINGS HE WOULD HAVE HAD TO DO; THIS IS LIKE A SALARY INCREASE.

GAINNEY ADDRESSED THE BOARD ON HIS DUTIES HAVING INCREASED; HE HAS MAINTAINED AN E MAIL SYSTEM FOR THE WHOLE COUNTY ANNEX. DEPUTY CLERK CARTER QUESTIONED IF HE DID HIS WORK DURING THE EIGHT HOUR WORK DAY OR DID HE HAVE TO WORK OVERTIME. GAINNEY EXPLAINED A LOT OF THE WORK HE HAD TO DO AFTER HOURS AND HE EARNS COMP TIME EVERY WEEK.

GAINNEY EXPLAINED THERE WAS A QUESTION WHEN HE WAS HIRED IF HIS CAPABILITIES WOULD QUALIFY FOR WHAT THE BOARD WANTED DONE AND IF HE HAS MET THE CRITERIA, IT WAS MENTIONED THE BOARD WOULD DISCUSS GIVING HIM AN INCREASE IF HE WAS DOING SATISFACTORY AT THE END OF A YEAR.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THE COMMITTEE HAVING COME BACK WITH \$2.00 AN HOUR RAISE AND \$1.00 AN HOUR RAISE FOR EMPLOYEES AND THAT IS WHAT HAS GOT THESE OTHER INCREASES STARTED. COMMISSIONER FINCH INFORMED COMMISSIONER BROCK THE COMMITTEE JUST BROUGHT BACK A LIST FOR THE BOARD TO REVIEW AND IF THEY DIDN'T LIKE IT, THEY COULD MARK THROUGH THEM, ADD TO IT, ETC. COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED THE COMMITTEE HAVING ALSO SAID THEY WERE NOT THROUGH THAT MORE RECOMMENDA- TIONS WOULD BE MADE; THEY WERE SUPPOSE TO BE ON A LIST FOR THE LAST MEETING AS ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT WAS AWARE OF THEM BUT DIDN'T HAVE THEM LISTED. COMMISSIONER BROCK WAS INFORMED THAT ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT DID REFERENCE THESE INCREASES AT THE LAST MEETING.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN TURNED HIS CHAIR OVER TO VICE-CHAIRMAN BROCK AND OFFERED A MOTION TO GIVE MALCOLM GAINNEY A \$.50 PER HOUR INCREASE BECAUSE IT WAS A COMMITMENT OF THE BOARD WHEN HE WAS HIRED TO GIVE HIM CONSIDERATION AT THE END OF ONE YEAR. COMMISSIONER COPE SAID IT WAS HARD FOR HIM TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN GIVING GAINNEY A RAISE AND NOT GIVE THE OTHERS ONE.

CHAIRMAN CORBIN REITERATED THE BOARD HAVING MADE A COMMITMENT WHEN GAINNEY WAS HIRED. COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED GAINNEY'S SALARY IN COMPARISON TO ROBERT HARCUS'S SALARY WITH HARCUS HAVING BEEN EMPLOYED SINCE 1977. COMMISSIONER CORBIN QUESTIONED IF A COMPUTER PROGRAMMER POSITION WASN'T A HIGHLY SKILLED POSITION WITH COMMISSIONER FINCH AGREEING IT WAS BUT A SUPERVISOR OVER A LOT OF MEN WAS ALSO A HIGHLY SKILLED JOB. COMMISSIONER CORBIN ADDRESSED HARCUS HAVING PICKED UP EVERYTHING HE KNEW ABOUT BEING A SUPERVISOR WHILE WORKING WITH THE COUNTY.

COMMISSIONER FINCH SAID HE WENT TO THE LENGTHS HE HAD TO WHEN HE RECOMMENDED HIRING GAINNEY BUT FEELS HE NEEDS MORE EXPERIENCE BEFORE ADJUSTING HIS SALARY; HE ALSO SAID HE DIDN'T REMEMBER COMMITTING TO INCREASING HIS SALARY BUT HE IS NOT SAYING IT DIDN'T HAPPEN. HE AGREED IF THAT IS IN THE MINUTES, THE BOARD NEEDS TO DO SOMETHING.

COMMISSIONER FINCH SECONDED THE MOTION TO GIVE GAINNEY A \$.50 PER HOUR INCREASE. COMMISSIONER COPE, FINCH, CORBIN AND BROCK VOTED FOR WITH COMMISSIONER HALL OPPOSED.

COMMISSIONER BROCK REFERENCED HAVING JUST APPROVED GAINNEY AN INCREASE AND HE FELT LIKE COMMISSIONER COPE, IF THEY ARE GOING TO GIVE ONE AN INCREASE THEY NEED TO LOOK AT GIVING THE OTHERS AN INCREASE. HE OFFERED A MOTION TO GIVE THE REMAINDER OF PEOPLE ON THE LIST THE ADMINISTRATOR HAD A SALARY INCREASE. ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT READ THE LIST OF EMPLOYEES: FELECIA REED, JOHN RICHARDS, LYNDA WALLER, SUSAN LAWSON, JAMES PETERSON AND DEBBIE RILEY. ON THE AMOUNT OF INCREASE TO BE GIVEN, COMMISSIONER BROCK AGREED ON FELECIA REED AND JOHN RICHARDS \$.50 AN HOUR INCREASE WITH THE REMAINDER GETTING \$.25 AN HOUR. COMMISSIONER FINCH WANTED TO ADD EDDIE RILEY AND CHRIS ROBERTS TO THE LIST TO GET A \$.25 AN HOUR INCREASE. HE SECONDED THE MOTION WITH EDDIE RILEY AND CHRIS ROBERTS INCLUDED. DISCUSSION WAS HELD WITH COMMISSIONER COPE WANTING TO GIVE LLOYD BRUNER A \$.50 PER HOUR INCREASE. COMMISSIONER BROCK AND COPE AGREED TO INCLUDE MR. BRUNER. THE MOTION ON THE FLOOR CARRIED WITH COMMISSIONER HALL OPPOSED.

COMMISSIONER FINCH ADDRESSED HIM ASKING ATTORNEY HOLLEY WHATEVER HAPPENED ABOUT GETTING AN AUDIT DONE OF THE HOSPITAL AND HE SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD ANYMORE BUT WOULD BE GLAD TO FOLLOW UP ON IT; COMMISSIONER FINCH SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ATTORNEY HOLLEY DO THIS.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY AGREED TO FOLLOW UP ON THE AUDIT AND INFORMED THE BOARD THE LAST CONVERSATION HE HAD WAS WITH THE AUDIT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN. CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADDRESSED THE AUDIT THAT WAS SUPPOSE TO BE DONE ON THE HOSPITAL THAT THE HOSPITAL WAS TO PAY FOR AND REQUESTED ATTORNEY HOLLEY CHECK ON THIS. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THEY WOULD HAVE TO GET THAT FROM THE HOSPITAL BOARD. CHAIRMAN CORBIN SAID HE WOULD BRING IT UP AT THE HOSPITAL BOARD MEETING.

COMMISSIONER BROCK OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FINCH AND CARRIED TO ADJOURN. ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY CLERK  
\*END OF MINUTES\* FOR 09/29/03

CHAIRMAN