

BOARD MINUTES FOR 08/16/05

AUGUST 16, 2005

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MET ON THE ABOVE DATE AT 8:00 A.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ANNEX, BOARD MEETING ROOM, 1331 SOUTH BOULEVARD, CHIPLEY, FLORIDA WITH COMMISSIONERS CORBIN, SAPP, FINCH, COPE AND STRICKLAND PRESENT. ATTORNEY HOLLEY, ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT, CLERK COOK AND DEPUTY CLERK CARTER WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE.

CHAIRMAN FINCH CALLED THE RECESSED MEETING TO ORDER WITH COMMISSIONER SAPP OFFERING PRAYER. CHAIRMAN FINCH LED IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

ATTORNEY HOLLEY REQUESTED THE BOARD CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PENDING LITIGATION, LITIGATION STRATEGY AND ATTORNEY FEES. HE ADVISED THE ONLY PEOPLE ALLOWED IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION WOULD BE HIMSELF, THE COMMISSIONERS, THE COURT REPORTER AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER. CHAIRMAN FINCH CALLED THE EXECUTIVE SESSION TO ORDER; DEPUTY CLERK CARTER AND CLERK LINDA COOK LEFT THE MEETING.

PURSUANT TO THE EXECUTIVE SESSION, CHAIRMAN FINCH CALLED THE RECESSED MEETING BACK TO ORDER.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN ASKED THE BOARD TO LOOK AT THE CORBIN AND ALFORD ROAD CONDITIONS. COMMISSIONER FINCH AGREED THERE WERE EMERGENCY REPAIRS NEEDED ON CORBIN ROAD AND COMMISSIONER COPE AGREED BOTH ROADS WERE IN NEED OF REPAIRS.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD WITH COMMISSIONER CORBIN ASKING ATTORNEY HOLLEY ABOUT REDUCING THE MILEAGE ON THE ROADS DUE TO THE CONDITIONS OF THE ROADS. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED IF THE ROAD IS IN BAD ENOUGH SHAPE AND POSSIBLY COULD CAUSE AN ACCIDENT, THEY COULD REDUCE THE MILEAGE.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN ASKED ATTORNEY HOLLEY IF THE BOARD COULD DECLARE THE ROAD CONDITIONS AN EMERGENCY SITUATION AND STOP THE LOGGING TRUCKS FROM GOING ON THE ROAD. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THE BOARD THEY HAD THE AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE A HAUL ROUTE FOR THE TRUCKS TO USE.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON A WEIGHT LIMIT TO BE USED ON THE ROAD. ATTORNEY HOLLEY REITERATED THE BOARD HAD THE AUTHORITY TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT AND THE AUTHORITY TO STOP THE BIG TRUCKS FROM TEARING UP THE ROADS.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN OFFERED A MOTION TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT UNDER EMERGENCY CONDITIONS TO 35MPH ON CORBIN ROAD AND ALFORD ROAD AND POST THE ROADS "NO TRUCKS ALLOWED". AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE WEIGHT LIMIT, COMMISSIONER CORBIN AMENDED HIS MOTION TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON CORBIN AND ALFORD ROADS TO 35 MPH AND POST A 15 TON WEIGHT LIMIT ON THE ROADS DUE TO THE EMERGENCY SITUATION OF THE ROADS. COMMISSIONER SAPP SECONDED THE MOTION.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON PUTTING A 35MPH ADVISORY SIGN AT EACH END OF THE BAD SECTION OF ALFORD ROAD RATHER THAN POSTING IT AT 35MPH ALL THE WAY THROUGH. ATTORNEY HOLLEY RECOMMENDED THE BOARD CHECK WITH FL-DOT ON THE STEPPING DOWN OF THE SPEED LIMIT ON THE ROADS; CHAIRMAN CORBIN ADVISED IT HAD TO BE STEPPED DOWN 10MPH. THE BOARD MADE NO CHANGE TO THE 35MPH SPEED LIMIT BEING POSTED ON BOTH ROADS ALL THE WAY THROUGH.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN AGREED TO ADVISE THE HEAVY HAULERS OF THE ROUTE THEY WOULD NEED TO TAKE AS SOON AS THE BOARD'S ACTION IS PUT IN PLACE. THE AMENDED MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS FOR COMMISSIONER CORBIN TO GET AN ESTIMATE FROM GRIFFIN HEAVY EQUIPMENT AND BAXTERS ASPHALT TO DO THE REPAIR WORK NEEDED ON CORBIN ROAD AND ALFORD ROAD.

COMMISSIONER SAPP UPDATED THE BOARD ON THEIR PREVIOUS ACTION FOR HIM TO PURCHASE TWO EXCAVATORS AT THE AUCTION; THE EXCAVATORS SOLD EXTREMELY HIGH AND HE DIDN'T PURCHASE THEM. HE HAD PROVIDED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT WITH INFORMATION

ON WHAT THE BOARD COULD PURCHASE NEW JOHN DEERE, CATERPILLAR AND KOMATSU EXCAVATORS FOR WITH WARRANTIES; THERE WASN'T A WHOLE LOT OF DIFFERENCE IN THE PRICE OF A NEW EXCAVATOR WITH A WARRANTY THAN WHAT THE USED EXCAVATORS SOLD FOR.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE NEED OF THE EQUIPMENT AND ALSO THE NEED FOR MORE PERSONNEL TO OPERATE THE EQUIPMENT AT ROAD AND BRIDGE.

COMMISSIONER COPE UPDATED THE BOARD ON BAHOMA ROAD BLOWING OUT EVERYTIME IT RAINS; THE PROPERTY OWNERS ARE WILLING TO DONATE SOME PROPERTY IF THE BOARD WILL PUT UP A FENCE. HE REQUESTED THE BOARD LET THE COUNTY ENGINEER, CLIFF KNAUER, SEE IF HE CAN COME UP WITH SOME KIND OF DESIGN TO STOP THE ERODING OR WASHING AWAY OF THE 700' TO 800' SECTION OF ROADWAY. HE AGREED TO USE HIS FUTURE ROAD PAVING MONIES TO TRY AND CORRECT THE PROBLEM.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND AND CARRIED TO AUTHORIZE COMMISSIONER COPE TO SPEND HIS FUTURE ROAD PAVING MONIES FOR THE NECESSARY REPAIRS ON BAHOMA ROAD.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN UPDATED THE BOARD ON THINKING THERE WOULD BE ENOUGH MONEY IN THE SCRAP PROJECT FUNDING TO PUT IN A RIGHT TURN LANE OFF OF BRICKYARD ROAD INTO WEST POINT PEPPERELL AND QUESTIONED IF HE NEEDED PERMISSION TO PURCHASE THE RIGHT OF WAY FROM DR. SLOAN IN ORDER TO PUT IN THE RIGHT TURN LANE.

CHAIRMAN FINCH ADVISED COMMISSIONER CORBIN HE WOULD NEED FOR THE ENGINEER TO JUSTIFY THE NEED FOR THE RIGHT TURN LANE, DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF RIGHT OF WAY NEEDED AND PROVIDE A COST ESTIMATE. HE ALSO ADDRESSED THERE NEEDING TO BE SERIOUS DISCUSSION FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL TO BE PLACED THERE AS WELL DUE TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND THE INDUSTRIAL PARK BEING LOCATED THERE.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN AGREED TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH INFORMATION ON OBTAINING RIGHT OF WAY FROM DR. SLOAN AND REPORT TO THE BOARD ON THE 25TH OF AUGUST.

COMMISSIONER COPE QUESTIONED THE PROCEDURE TO GO ON PRIVATE PROPERTY TO REPAIR AN OUTFALL DITCH. ATTORNEY HOLLEY ADVISED THEY WOULD NEED TO OBTAIN AN EASEMENT FROM THE PROPERTY OWNER.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN SAID HE NORMALLY OBTAINED RIGHT OF ENTRY FROM THE PROPERTY OWNER AS THEY NORMALLY WON'T GIVE AN EASEMENT.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT REMINDED ATTORNEY HOLLEY HE WAS TO UPDATE THE RIGHT OF ENTRY AND EASEMENT FORMS CURRENTLY BEING USED BY THE COUNTY.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT REPORTED ON THE INTERVIEWS FOR THE DUMP- TRUCK DRIVER AND BACKHOE OPERATOR POSITIONS; THERE WERE THREE INHOUSE APPLICANTS WITH THE TWO SCORING THE HIGHEST BEING BUDDY NELSON AND JOHN PATRICK. HERBERT ADVISED THE INTERVIEWING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED PUTTING BUDDY NELSON ON THE DUMPTRUCK AND JOHN PATRICK ON THE BACKHOE. BOTH EMPLOYEES ADVISED IF THEY WERE GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE A CUT IN PAY, THEY DIDN'T WANT THE POSITIONS; IF THEY ARE MOVED WITHOUT A CUT IN PAY, HERBERT ADVISED BOARD ACTION WOULD BE NEEDED.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THERE BEING A FLAW IN THE COUNTY POLICY PERTAINING TO AN EMPLOYEE HAVING TO TAKE A CUT IN PAY TO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER POSITION.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON ALL EQUIPMENT OPERATORS BEING PAID THE SAME AND HAVE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES BASED ON THE NUMBER OF YEARS OF EXPERIENCE.

COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND AND CARRIED TO APPROVE OF BUDDY NELSON'S SALARY AND JOHN PATRICK'S SALARY, IF THEY CHOOSE TO TAKE THE POSITIONS THEY INTER- VIEWED FOR, TO REMAIN THE SAME AS THEY CURRENTLY MAKE.

COMMISSIONER COPE OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND FOR ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO WORK ON THE COUNTY POLICY AND PROCEDURES SO AN EMPLOYEE WON'T LOSE SALARY IF THEY CHANGE POSITIONS.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THERE BEING A NEED TO HAVE DISTINCTION IN THE LEVEL OF EQUIPMENT OPERATORS WITH THE BOARD CONSENTING THERE SHOULD BE A HEAVY EQUIPMENT CLASSIFICATION TO CONSIST OF TRUCK DRIVERS, MOTORGRADER OPERATORS, BACKHOE OPERATORS, AND DOZIER OPERATORS. CHAIRMAN FINCH ASKED ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO WORK ON THE POLICY CHANGE AND BRING IT TO THE AUGUST 25TH MEETING.

CHAIRMAN FINCH UPDATED THE BOARD ON EDDIE RILEY, SHOP FOREMAN, PROPOSING IF THE BOARD WOULD LEAVE HIS SALARY AS IS, HE WOULD TAKE ANOTHER POSITION AS AN

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR. DISCUSSION WAS HELD WITH THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS IF EDDIE WANTS TO MOVE TO A MOTORGRADER OPERATOR TO LEAVE HIS SALARY AS IS.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON JERRY FEARS AND QUINCY PETTIS BEING OUT ON WORKERS COMP. DUE TO QUINCY WORKING IN THE SHOP AND PATRICK AND NELSON LEAVING THE SHOP, COMMISSIONER CORBIN EXPRESSED CONCERN WITH THE LACK OF EMPLOYEES IN THE SHOP. CHAIRMAN FINCH ADVISED CORBIN THAT BOTH PATRICK AND NELSON HAD AGREED THEY WOULDN'T LEAVE THE SHOP UNTIL THEIR POSITIONS ARE FILLED.

ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT WAS ASKED TO BRING BACK A REPORT TO THE BOARD AFTER TALKING WITH EDDIE ABOUT THE MOTORGRADER OPERATOR POSITION AND PATRICK AND NELSON ABOUT THE DUMPTRUCK DRIVER AND BACKHOE OPERATOR POSITIONS.

COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND UPDATED THE BOARD ON HAVING A COOKOUT ON SEPTEMBER 1ST FOR ALL THE RETIREES AT PUBLIC WORKS; LEROY GOODMAN, JAMES BOSTON, A. D. PETTIS AND ALVESTER CROOK.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD WITH COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND OFFERING A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE TO HAVE A COOKOUT ON SEPTEMBER 1ST AT 12:00 NOON FOR RETIREES AT PUBLIC WORKS. THE BOARD AGREED FOR ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO GET A PLAQUE FOR THE RETIREES WITH HE AND COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND WORKING ON THE LANGUAGE FOR THE PLAQUES. THEY ALSO AGREED FOR THE ROAD AND BRIDGE EMPLOYEES TO BE ABLE TO GO HOME AFTER LUNCH.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON THE MENU FOR THE COOKOUT WITH COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND SUGGESTING HAMBURGERS, HOTDOGS, BAKED BEANS AND POTATO SALAD.

DEPUTY CLERK CARTER INFORMED THE BOARD THEY HAD NOT TAKEN ACTION ON SOME PREVIOUS MOTIONS. THEY THEN APPROVED THE MOTION FOR JOHN PATRICK AND BUDDY NELSON'S SALARY TO REMAIN THE SAME IF THEY ACCEPT THE POSITIONS THEY INTERVIEWED FOR; THE BOARD TOOK ACTION TO APPROVE OF ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT TO WORK ON THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES WHERE AN EMPLOYEE WOULDN'T LOSE THEIR SALARY IF THEY CHANGE POSITIONS AND BRING INFORMATION BACK TO THE BOARD AT THEIR AUGUST 25TH MEETING.

AFTER FINISHING DISCUSSION ON THE MENU FOR THE COOKOUT FOR THE RETIREES, THE BOARD'S CONSENSUS WAS TO HAVE THE MENU SUGGESTED BY COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND. THE MOTION CARRIED TO APPROVE OF THE COOKOUT FOR THE RETIREES ON SEPTEMBER 1ST.

DISCUSSION WAS HELD ON WHO WOULD BE INVITED TO THE COOKOUT WITH THE BOARD CONSENTING FOR THE CLERKS AND SECRETARIES FOR THE BOARD TO BE INVITED AS LONG AS THEY STAGGER THEIR OFFICE HOURS TO KEEP THE OFFICES OPEN; HOWEVER, THEY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO HOME AFTER LUNCH.

COMMISSIONER CORBIN OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER COPE AND CARRIED TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENTS THE BOARD HAD ALREADY APPROVED FOR THE COUNTY INCENTIVE GRANT PROJECTS; ALLISON DRIVE FROM BRICKYARD ROAD TO SHERWOOD DRIVE AND CHAIN LAKE ROAD FROM FROM STATE ROAD 77 TO CARTER CIRCLE.

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

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DEPUTY CLERK

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CHAIRMAN

\*END OF MINUTES\* FOR 08/16/05