

BOARD MINUTES FOR 08/21/08

AUGUST 21, 2008

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON THE ABOVE DATE AT 3:00 P.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY EOC TO DECLARE WASHINGTON COUNTY IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO TROPICAL STORM FAY.

COMMISSIONER PATE, STRICKLAND, HOLMAN, FINCH AND SAPP WERE PRESENT. ADMINISTRATOR HERBERT, CLERK LINDA COOK AND EOC DIRECTOR ROGER HAGAN WERE ALSO IN ATTENDANCE. OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE WERE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SHERIFF DEPARTMENT, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, COUNCIL ON AGING, EMT, SCHOOL BOARD, CITY OF CHIPLEY, GULF POWER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, TAX COLLECTOR, FOSTER FOLLEY NEWS AND WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS.

CHAIRMAN PATE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AND TURNED IT OVER TO ROGER HAGAN. ROGER EXPLAINED THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO DECLARE WASHINGTON COUNTY IN A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDS IF NEEDED. HE STATED HE HAD HELD A CONFERENCE CALL AND FAY WAS PRETTY MUCH STATIONARY; IT IS MOVING AT A RATE OF ONLY TWO MILES PER HOUR. IT IS PREDICTED TO BE IN THE PANHANDLE SOME TIME AROUND 8:00 A.M. SATURDAY IF IT DOES NOT CHANGE ITS COURSE. AT 1:00 P.M. THURSDAY, THE STORM SHOWED A VERY LARGE EYE AND THE EYE IS DRY; THE OUTER BANDS IS WHERE THE RAIN IS LOCATED. HEAVY RAINS WILL BE THE MOST CONCERN.

ROGER STATED THE RIVER COULD WITHSTAND 12" AND NOT PRESENTLY A PROBLEM. HE DOES NOT FEEL THERE IS A REASON FOR SHELTERS TO OPEN OR A REASON FOR EVACUATION AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, SCHOOLS AND RED CROSS WOULD BE ON STAND BY.

THE DECLARATION DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY EXISTS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY DUE TO TROPICAL STORM FAY WAS READ BY ROGER. THE DECLARATION WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 A.M. ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2008. COMMISSIONER STRICKLAND OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HOLMAN AND CARRIED TO ADOPT THE DECLARATION.

ROGER ADVISED 6" TO 12" OF RAIN IS PREDICTED FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY; BY FRIDAY IT SHOULD BE NEARING THE GULF AND DIE OUT IN MISSISSIPPI.

JAY FELSBERG, WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS, ASKED IF ANY PREPARATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE BY PUBLIC WORKS. CHAIRMAN PATE RESPONDED "YES"; THERE HAVE BEEN BARRICADES PLACED IN PARTS OF THE COUNTY JUST IN CASE.

COMMISSIONER HOLMAN REQUESTED ALL CONCERNED WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE.

ROGER STATED THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOES NOT FEEL FAY WILL STRENGTHEN IN THE BAY OR GULF. HE SAID IT WAS VERY UNPREDICTABLE. THERE WILL BE ANOTHER CONFERENCE CALL AT 10:00 A.M. FRIDAY AND HE EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND.

STACY WEBB STATED, FOR GRANT PURPOSES, ALL CONCERNED TO PLEASE DOCUMENT EXPENSES.

BILL LEE, WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, REQUESTED A CALL FOR ANY ROAD CLOSINGS FOR MONDAY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR THE SCHOOL BUSES.

DAVID CORBIN STATED HE HAD A BRIEFING WITH WASHINGTON CI AND THEY ARE PREPARED TO RESPOND.

CHAIRMAN PATE ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY MORE QUESTIONS; THERE WERE NONE. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ATTEST: _____

CLERK
END OF MINUTES FOR 08/21/08

CHAIRMAN