

**WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
September 25, 2014 Regular Meeting - Commission Board Room
1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428**

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5
Alan Bush Chairman	Joel Pate Vice-Chairman	Charles Brock	Todd Abbott	Lynn Gothard

I. PROCLAMATION – Sgt. Hagans

Chairman Bush, Commissioners Pate, Brock, Abbott, and Gothard were present at the meeting. Also attending were County Attorney Goodman, County Coordinator Corbin, Ad Interim Clerk Bazzel, and Deputy Clerk Brantley.

A. Call to Order – Chairman Bush

B. Invocation – County Coordinator Corbin/Chairman Bush

AGENDA ADDITIONS

1. Truck Purchase Request from Sheriff Haddock – Chairman Bush

Chairman Bush added the above to the consent agenda with no opposition.

Funds to purchase the truck will come out of Law Enforcement Trust

2. Paperwork to support consent agenda item J. – County Attorney Goodman

3. Lease Trucks – Commissioner Brock

II. ADOPT THE AGENDA – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pate and carried to adopt the agenda with the above additions.**

III. ADOPT PREVIOUS MINUTES

August 20, 2014 Workshop

August 28, 2014 Regular Meeting

September 4, 2014 Tentative Budget Hearing

September 15, 2014 Final Budget Hearing

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pate and carried to adopt the above minutes.

IV. NON AGENDA AUDIENCE – Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute 286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Each individual shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the board.

County Attorney Goodman read the opening non-agenda audience statement

approved by the Board.

- Willie Jean Thomas – 3141 Gainer Road – Ms. Thomas addressed the Board in reference to an ongoing draining issue on Gainer Road, requesting the Board address the issue.

Commissioner Brock referenced the possibility of a grant to fix the drainage issue that had been previously mentioned by County Engineer Knauer.

Chairman Bush advised Public Works Supervisors to look at the issue. He also suggested state funding might be able to be used for the road.

- Cassandra Young – Mallory Pond Lane/Dorch Circle – Ms. Young addressed the Board in reference to a recent road name change that she lives on. She advised that she did not support the road change. She requested to change her private address/roadway to Rodeo Drive.

Attorney Goodman suggested the Board go through the process and bring it back before the Board during the October workshop. 911 and Planning should be involved. He advised that he would provide a comprehensive review.

Chairman Bush closed the non-agenda portion of the meeting.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Request approval for the Clerk of Court to pay vouchers for August 2014 totaling \$1,198,107.88
- B. Manufacturing Month Proclamation
- C. 2014-2015 Rural Works Program
- D. State Aid to Libraries Grant Agreement
- E. DR-4177 Hazard Mitigation Grant Application
- F. Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Update
- G. Adoption of Title VI Nondiscrimination Policy
- H. MSBU Assessment Roll

- I. 2014-2015 Medical Examiner Inter-local Agreement
- J. Equipment Purchase of (4) Dump Trucks and (3) Graders
- K. Purchase of 2014 Ford F-150 – The Expense will be taken from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund II account. This request has been made by Sheriff Haddock. The purchase meets the criteria of Florida Statute 932.7055 (3).

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pate and carried to accept the consent agenda.

VI. AGENDA ITEMS

- Washington County Health Department Contract Annual Renewal – David Corbin, County Coordinator recommended approval. County Attorney Goodman advised from a legal aspect he has no issues with the contract. Karen Johnson advised the Board there is no significant change in the agreement from this year to last year.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Chairman Bush and carried to approve the renewal of the Washington County Health Department’s annual Contract.

Commissioner Gothard advised she requests the information before the meeting. She will support the agreement per the fact that County Attorney Goodman advised he has no issues with the contract.

- Planning Month Proclamation – David Corbin, County Coordinator advised he put the request on the agenda at the request of Michael DeRuntz, Planning Director.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pate and carried to mark the month of October Planning Month via Proclamation and adopt a resolution recognizing West Florida Regional Planning Council on their 50th anniversary. The motion carried to unanimously.

- Florida Department of Agriculture Forestry Service Agreement – David Corbin, County Coordinator

At this time, the Board did not approve the above.

Lynne Abel, Public Safety Director passed out the Florida Agriculture Annual Report to the Commissioners for informational purposes.

Commissioner Brock spoke on funds that are received by the Florida Division of Forestry that are a portion of ad valorem funds.

- Juvenile Justice Rental – David Corbin, County Coordinator requested approval for negotiation for rent.

Commissioner Gothard offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brock and carried for County Coordinator Corbin to bring back a lease agreement leasing a 1,000 feet of the space where Guardian Ad Litem moved from with the agreement that Ms. Jackson will go back and work on providing the Board relief on the utility bill the Board pays. The motion carried unanimously.

- Fire Coordinator – David Corbin, County Coordinator advised the Board he has composed a budget for the Fire Coordinator position as requested by the Board to come out of the Tax Deed Overbid Fund.

Commissioner Gothard clarified with David that it is his recommendation to take funds out of the Tax Deed Overbid at a onetime occurrence.

Commissioner Gothard offered the above motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott.

Chairman Bush clarified the motion, as the Fire Coordinator expenditures are included in the budget by funds transferred from the Tax Deed Overbid funds for \$101,602.00 to cover the cost of a Fire Coordinator.

The Board discussed hiring a Fire Coordinator.

Commissioner Brock suggested the Fire Coordinator be hired on a part time basis.

Commissioner Gothard addressed the Board there needs to be a budget for a starting point.

County Attorney Goodman suggested the person that is interviewing needs to know if the job is part-time/full-time

Commissioner Abbott addressed the Board the budget is estimated guesses.

Chairman Bush addressed the Board the estimates are conservative. He suggested an applicant should know that the job is for a one-year basis.

David Corbin, County Coordinator advised the funds for the Fire Coordinator will be coming out of are non-reoccurring money.

Commissioner Pate referenced things still floating around about a lawsuit. It does not make good financial sense to pull money out and be sued about it later.

County Attorney Goodman advised that he is not concerned about the Fire Coordinator from the perspective of a lawsuit from 2009-2010. It is strictly a Board decision.

Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Gothard -	Yes
Commissioner Abbott -	Yes
Chairman Bush -	No
Commissioner Pate -	No
Commissioner Brock -	Yes

The motion carried 3 to 2.

- Legitimacy of Popular Head Fire Department – David Corbin, County Coordinator
Major Brown addressed the Board the Sheriff's Department has not told Popular Head/Five Points that Popular Head is not a legitimate fire department. The dispatch is being done properly and there have been no public safety issues. There are (2) maps in the computer system, which perhaps need to be resolved.

Chairman Bush addressed the Board the county has been using the Popular Head substation as part of its fire department network since 2007 and it has not been recognized as such on maps. Mr. Pierce has requested it to be shown as such.

Commissioner Gothard addressed the Chairman that she feels this issue is much more complicated than the maps. She would like to wait until the Fire Coordinator does research on the maps. When you change the maps, you are changing the funding areas. When the funding areas are changed based on the criteria, the funding will be changed. She requested something in writing from the Chipley, Wausau, and Vernon Chiefs who are all losing land coverage, that agree to this change.

Chairman Bush advised that Mr. Pierce has acknowledged that he is not going to request any additional funding.

Myron Pierce advised the Fire Chiefs have gotten together, and worked up the formula. They have also had it worked up with the company and accepted it. It has been changed in the past.

Myron Pierce advised what he needs is the maps from 911 showing the boundary areas and they will continue to run as they have been for the last seven years. He is not asking for any more funding from anyone.

Commissioner Gothard advised he could continue to do that without changing the maps.

Myron Pierce went over a map that they have been working from the last seven years, referencing the ISO area.

Chairman Bush advised that Myron Pierce is requesting the map that the fire department has been using for years be acknowledged as a legitimate map. The subject was addressed seven years ago, with the result being the Board deciding to turn it back over to the Chiefs Association and everyone would get together and look at the maps. All of them went through their votes except for the person who made the original motion, which was Commissioner Strickland.

Commissioner Gothard addressed the Board the direction on which map was being used has not been clear.

Commissioner Gothard went over a view of the map.

Commissioner Gothard addressed the Board Mr. Pierce is requesting the lines be moved, which will affect Chipley, Wausau, and Vernon's coverage area. The funding formula is based upon the land area, population, and 911 addresses.

She advised that she would like something in writing from the fire departments that will be affected. The Board needs to see economic impact before making a decision.

Mr. Pierce went over a map he received from ISO, three weeks prior. As far as insurance concerns, the people in the specified area will have no fire coverage.

Commissioner Gothard advised that she would like to see that in writing. Even though Mr. Pierce does not currently want extra funding the issue may come up in the future once the lines are changed.

Chairman Bush addressed the Board maybe it needs to come up.

Jim Palmer, WCFA Vice-President addressed the Board he was President of WCFA at the time all of this was done. He can go back and pull their meeting records where discussion was held on the situation. The association voted and approved for the change to be paid. They had recently commissioned the GSG funding formula when they were doing that to see what affect it would have on them. With the new formula, population, and land mass changes, Mr. Pierce is correct when he said that Chipley gained \$8,000.00. Everybody in the county mostly lost population except Chipley, which grew. The growth in population offset the loss of landmass. The Chiefs elected not to apply the new formula to the existing. The WCFA minutes can be pulled.

Chairman Bush asked what year is the formula from that is currently being used.

Commissioner Gothard advised 2010-2011.

Chairman Bush advised that he does not see where it is an issue or the relevance of it.

Jim Palmer advised there is no issue from the WCFA. He is merely a substation of his fire department. He saw a need of a part of the county that had an ISO need and he filled that need by building a substation. He does not want any money.

Commissioner Gothard addressed that they have heard nothing from the Chiefs that would be affected and nothing in writing from WCFA to show that a vote was made.

Chairman Bush went over what the motion should be which is, the maps be updated to reflect the current mode of operations for the Popular Head

substation.

County Attorney Goodman addressed the Board it appears there is a consensus and agreement by the Chief that the map change will not change anybody's funding but only the mapping. This needs to be part of the motion to protect the funding for the various fire departments affected.

The Board discussed the map change.

Chairman Bush asked for a motion that the maps be updated to reflect the current mode of operation for Popular Head Fire without currently adjusting the funding formula.

Commissioner Brock offered the motion above, which was seconded by Commissioner Pate and carried.

Commissioner Gothard addressed the Board when that is done and you submit the land area masses to GSG the funding will be changed. GSG is going to do it based off the maps.

Commissioner Brock addressed Commissioner Gothard maybe it needs changing. He does not know.

Commissioner Gothard addressed the Board they need something from the Fire Association that all the fire departments stating they have looked at it and agree.

Lynne Abel, Public Safety Director advised they could provide that.

County Attorney Goodman addressed Chairman Bush there is going to be a map for service, which is what is being updated in the Board Meeting, and when GSG ask for the funding map that is going to remain the funding map.

The motion carried 4 to 1 with Commissioner Gothard in opposition.

James Pate, Volunteer Fire Fighter at the Substation thanked the Board from

himself as well as the community members. For the last seven years, his insurance has been up due to the maps not being recognized by ISO.

- Lease Trucks as Part of FEMA Response Efforts – Commissioner Brock requested lease trucks to be put with the county trucks to increase production. The quote is for \$60.00. He requested three trucks be put on each side.

Dallas Carter addressed the Board he wants to ensure when it is close out time the Board receives their funding.

Chairman Bush clarified Commissioner Brock’s recommendation is to give Dallas, David, and Johnny the authority to utilize up to six contract dump trucks as part of their FEMA repair process.

Commissioner Brock added three on each side.

Chairman Bush went on to clarify Commissioner Brock’s request is providing they get the security the county will be reimbursed.

Commissioner Brock offered the above motion, seconded by Commissioner Pate and carried to give Dallas, David, and Johnny the authority to lease six dump trucks to run with the county fleet and do FEMA work to increase production. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Bush called a break. 10:45 a.m.

Chairman Bush called the meeting back to order.

VII. COUNTY ENGINEER

County Engineer Knauer addressed the Board on the following:

1. Falling Waters – The bid opening for Falling Waters road improvements has occurred. There were four bids total, which are Roberts and Roberts, \$623,195.00, Gulf Coast Utility Contractors \$749,510.00, C.W. Roberts

\$897,505.00, and Anderson Columbia \$595,000.50.

- Maintenance of traffic affected the increased cost as well as earthwork.
- Easements are prepared.
- Bids have been requested to be held for 90 days, which is normally 60 days
- Total area is 3600 feet/1.1 or 1.2 miles

County Engineer Knauer suggested the County could consider doing clearing which Anderson has priced at \$65,000.00

The Board discussed the bids as well as CTST funding.

County Engineer Knauer advised the submittal date for CTST is April.

The consensus is to meet with The Department of Transportation, which will include County Engineer Knauer, David Corbin, and Commissioner Abbott.

- County Engineer Knauer advised paving has occurred. Everything is finished except for limestone and Douglas Ferry. They are trying to get a date lined up for them to come back and finish those.

VIII. COUNTY COORDINATOR – None

- IX. CLERK – Sun Trust Bank Loan - Harold Bazzel, Ad Interim Clerk advised the Clerk's Office needs direction on how much the Board would like to apply on the non tax-exempt note in order for the tax exempt. There is around \$670,000.00 available that can only be used for debt service. He suggested the Board leave around \$150,000.00 in the account and pay around \$520,000.00.

County Attorney Goodman advised the Board has \$552,190.50 in the loan excess fund.

Bill Bogan addressed the Board the reason of the \$150,000.00 balance to be left is due to arbitrage rebate calculation, financial advisor, and cost in restructuring the debt.

The Board discussed the loan.

County Attorney Goodman advised he would make the first motion to draw the account down to \$150,000.00 and the second motion would deal with the \$107,461.92 so the record is clear. He suggested waiting on the \$10,554.54 to clarify how it can be used.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion to expend the loan excess fund down to \$150,000.00, and apply it to the taxable debt loan with Sun Trust Bank. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gothard.

Chairman Bush clarified there was a motion, and a second to use the loan excess monies to the extent of leaving \$150,000.00 in the account and all that money be applied to the taxable loan.

Chairman Bush clarified that monies have been set aside for interest rate changes on the variable loan.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gothard that they expend the \$107,461.92 applying it toward the taxable debt at Sun Trust. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Bush clarified what Commissioner Pate previously mentioned of allowing the County Attorney to solicit proposals for Washington County to hire a financial advisor to monitor the loans and current interest rates with the objective of locking in a fixed interest rate when necessary.

Commissioner Abbott asked if a financial advisor was in the budget for next year.

Bill Bogan advised the Clerk's Office did not budget for a financial advisor. They

budgeted for someone to come in post employment, capital inventory, and things of that nature but not a financial advisor.

Chairman Bush asked if it could be taken out of the same funds.

Bill Bogan advised they have put together a tight budget, which is one of the reasons they suggested to leave funding in the account.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Pate to solicit proposals to hire a financial advisor.

Harold Bazzel advised the individual is not what you would consider a full time employee but available under contract.

Bill Bogan advised you put them on a retainer.

The motion carried unanimously.

- X. DEPUTY CLERK – Sheriff’s Request to Spend Funds – This item was put on the consent agenda by Chairman Bush at the beginning of the meeting.
- XI. COUNTY ATTORNEY – County Attorney Goodman congratulated the Board for approving to cut a \$1,100,00.00 loan in half, which is great for the citizens of Washington County.
 - Cooperative Equipment Agreement – The loan agreement is with the Florida Department of Agriculture, which is routine. It sets forth if the county uses equipment that the Department of Agriculture holds title to, the county will return it as borrowed or pay to do so.

County Attorney Goodman recommended approval.

Commissioner Pate offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brock for discussion.

Commissioner Brock requested history.

County Attorney Goodman advised it is not a loan agreement as far as money. It is in respect to equipment to the availability and use of the equipment from the Department of Agriculture if used by the county. It sets forth how the equipment will be operated.

Commissioner Brock questioned the \$25,000.00 the Department of Forestry receives.

Lynne Abel, Public Safety Director advised they receive \$25,000.00 off the top of the half mil annually.

The motion carried unanimously to approve the Cooperative Equipment Agreement.

- Courthouse Project – County Attorney Goodman advised 9/12 there was a mandatory construction management pre-bid meeting. 9/15 there was a progress meeting with the Courthouse Committee, which a couple of Commissioners attended. 9/30 the bid packets are due. 10/7 the Committee will go through the bid packets and short-list them. 10/13 at 8:00 a.m. will be the formal interviews for the Construction Manager.
- Draft Memorandum – County Attorney Goodman advised the Board he had prepared and provided them with a memorandum that defines revenue sources/revenue breakdown spreadsheet. The spreadsheet will be useful in the budget process.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Byrd v. Washington County

Chairman Bush called a recess for the Board to go into Executive Session.

11:34 a.m.

Chairman Bush ended the Executive Session and called the board meeting back to order.

County Attorney Goodman advised the public the Board has just broken from executive session in the case of Mary Ellen Byrd v. Washington County, Case 13-187-CA. Present were all five Board of County Commissioners, County Attorney Goodman, David Corbin, Court Reporter, outside council, Meg Zabijaka, and Evan Gibbs.

At this time, a settle agreement has been presented to the Board of County

Commissioners. If the Board would like to move on the agreement, a motion is needed.

Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brock and carried to approve the settlement agreement in general release in the above referenced case.

Roll Call Vote

Commissioner Brock -	Yes
Commissioner Pate -	Yes
Chairman Bush -	No
Commissioner Abbott -	Yes
Commissioner Gothard -	No

The motion carried 3 to 2.

Commissioner Brock requested County Attorney Goodman draft a letter to the Department of Transportation Attorney, asking them if they would try to get the Board a letter of resolution/notice to proceed so that construction work can be started on Roche, Lucas, and Wilderness Roads.

XIII. ADJOURN – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brock and carried to adjourn.**

Deputy Clerk Brantley

Minute Approval Date