

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA  
FEBRUARY 15, 2000  
(1:30 P.M.)**

Proceedings of a workshop meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, began and held in the Auditorium at the County Administration Building, #4020 Lewis Speedway (County Road 16-A) and U.S. 1 North, St. Augustine, Florida.

Present were: James E. Bryant, District 5, Chair  
Mary Kohnke, District 4, Vice Chair  
Pal Howell, District 1  
John Reardon, District 2  
Mark Jacalone, District 3  
Ben W. Adams, Jr., County Administrator  
Lenora Newsome, Deputy Clerk

Also present were: Cheryl Strickland, Clerk of Courts; and Michael Givens, Chief Deputy-Finance

(02/15/2000 - 1 - 1:35 p.m.)

DISCUSSION OF A PROPOSED NORTHWEST ANNEX FACILITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001.

Joe Vonasek, Budget Officer, reviewed this item explaining the reason for needing the Northwest Annex Facility and what it would cost. Discussion followed on the location of the property, total square footage of the annex facility, quality of building per square foot and type of building being built. Vonasek stated that the building would be funded from the General Fund.

(1:56 p.m.) Sharon Outland, Property Appraiser, spoke on needing additional space in the northwest part of the County and explained why.

(1:58 p.m.) Penny Halyburton, Supervisor of Elections, spoke on needing additional space in the northwest part of the County and explained why.

(1:58 p.m.) Neil Perry, Sheriff, spoke on needing additional space in the northwest part of the County and explained why. He also mentioned needing space at the old fire station in Switzerland.

(2:02 p.m.) Cheryl Strickland, Clerk of Court, spoke on needing additional space in the northwest part of the County.

(2:03 p.m.) Robert Burton, Tax Collector-s Office, spoke on needing additional space in the northwest part of the County and explained why.

(2:06 p.m.) Vonasek requested to enter this item into the Capital Project FY 2001. ***It was the consensus of the Board to comply with Vonasek-s request.*** Cheryl Strickland, Clerk of Courts, left the meeting.

(02/15/2000 - 1 - 2:07 p.m.)

DISCUSSION OF GENERATORS FOR FIRE STATIONS IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY.

Vonasek reviewed this item and explained the cost involved. Gene Burns, Maintenance Operations Director, explained the reason for needing the generators. Vonasek stated that the Fire Services Office established the priority of the fire stations getting generators. Ray Ashton, Emergency Services Director, suggested to let him review the information and return to the Board with a recommendation from the Emergency Services Department. Howell requested support on installing generators for the following three fire stations: Switzerland, Palm Valley, and Orangedale. Discussion followed on installing generators.

(2:36 p.m.) Herbert Conkey, 1137 Prince Road, spoke on Fire District 5, St. Augustine South Fire Station. Discussion followed on support for installing generators in the three fire stations mentioned by Howell, and giving information to Ray Ashton to check out for a recommendation. Howell stated that the fire station in Orangedale is being built now and would need the generator installed. ***The consensus of the Board was for Ray Ashton to look at the three stations for recommendation and go ahead and lay the pipe for the Orangedale Fire Station.*** Adams mentioned to have Ray Ashton return to the Board the morning of March 7, 2000.

(02/15/2000 - 2 - 2:45 p.m.)

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE FUNDING FOR THE BENNETT PROPERTY.

Vonasek reviewed this item stating the status. He stated that the project itself is being entered into the FY 2001 CIP process, will be presented to the Long Range Planning Committee and then brought to the Board as a workshop item. Discussion followed on using impact fees for funding, reviewing all the resources, and being committed to designing the property.

(02/15/2000 - 2 - 2:50 p.m.)

REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED SOUTH OUTER LOOP ROAD BY FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Joe Stephenson, Director of Housing and Transportation, reviewed this item.

(2:51 p.m.) Schroeder gave a brief history on the South Outer Loop Road and the St. Johns River bridge concept. Discussion followed on the window of opportunity disappearing, and the demand changing. Schroeder stated that the hope was to develop a plan with an extensive public involvement process in both Counties after receiving an indication of what the Board of County Commissioners wanted in their Sector Plan. Discussion followed.

(3:34 p.m.) Ellen Whitmer, 1178 Natures Hammock Road South, Fruit Cove, commented on keeping St. Johns County from being a cut through type County.

(3:36 p.m.) Louise Thrower, 288 Orange Avenue, Fruit Cove, spoke on adding extra lanes instead of another bridge. Mike Givens, Chief Deputy-Finance, left the meeting.

The meeting recessed at 3:35 p.m. and reconvened at 3:44 p.m.

(02/15/2000 - 2 - 3:44 p.m.)

DISCUSSION OF ORDINANCE 2000-06 (THE CURRENT FERTILIZER ORDINANCE).

Patrick McCormack, Assistant County Attorney, entered the meeting. Jacalone explained the reason for returning this item to the agenda. Kohnke reviewed this item. Reardon stated that he received concerns from the Lawn Care Industry.

(3:50 p.m.) Barry Troutman, 4777 Old Winter Garden Road, Orlando, stated that the ordinance shows great effort, but from a technological standpoint, some excellent

opportunities have been missed to improve things. He stated that the ordinance created an enforcement problem.

(3:57 p.m.) Jerry Sartain, Soil and Water Science Department, University of Florida, offered some scientific issues relative to the ordinance.

(4:04 p.m.) Erica Santella, 777 Douglas Avenue, Altamonte Springs, discussed nitrate.

(4:09 p.m.) Ed Dixon, 12704 Burning Tree Lane, Jacksonville, spoke on maintaining lawns correctly.

(4:11 p.m.) Raymond Kidwell, 130 Masters Drive, spoke on a couple of issues that are not addressed in the ordinance: the damage waiver, and the enforcement issue.

(4:13 p.m.) Wiley McIlrath, 1116 Mill Creek Drive, Jacksonville, voiced his concerns with the ordinance and requested reopening the ordinance for discussion.

(4:16 p.m.) Randy Nader, 10066 Sawgrass Drive West, Ponte Vedra Beach, voiced his concerns with the ordinance.

(4:19 p.m.) Kathleen Anthony, 6 South Roscoe Blvd., Palm Valley, requested that some of the experts be recalled and reopen the ordinance for discussion.

(4:20 p.m.) Brantley Russell, Rt. 5, Box 9849, Hilliard, Russell voiced his concerns with the ordinance.

(4:23 p.m.) Nick Dennis, 2704 Boquette Avenue, Jacksonville, spoke on certain issues with the ordinance, especially the legality part.

(4:28 p.m.) Bryan Cooksey III, 130 Masters Drive, spoke on complying with whatever the Board requested them to do and requested the Board to get input from everyone.

(4:31 p.m.) Dean Traylor, 22801 N.W. 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Lawtsey, stated that people didn't feel like they had any participation in the changes of the ordinance and requested that the ordinance be readdressed.

(4:35 p.m.) Jim Lyle, 710 30<sup>th</sup> Street, Fort Meade, voiced his concern on some of the language used in the ordinance: liquid fertilizer and non slow release or water soluble fertilizer.

(4:37 p.m.) Louis Trad, Jr., 8178 San Jose Blvd., voiced his concerns with the ordinance and stated that the ordinance needed to be tabled, until some work is done on it.

(4:42 p.m.) Jim Dilbeck read the concerns with the ordinance for Tommy Allen, 2500 Cabbage Hammock Road, because Allen had to leave early.

(4:43 p.m.) Marylyn Bales, 32555 Okaloosa Trail, Sorrento, voiced her concerns with the ordinance.

(4:46 p.m.) Frank Sbarro, 309 Sawmill Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, expressed his concerns with the ordinance.

(4:50 p.m.) Deputy Clerk Lenora Newsome left the meeting; Deputy Clerk Yvonne King entered the meeting.

(4:53 p.m.) Marcy Silkebacken, 41 Phillips Avenue, Ponte Vedra, commented in favor of making improvements to the ordinance. Discussion followed regarding quick release fertilizer, slow release fertilizer, and irrigation. (5:03 p.m.) Patrick McCormick, Assistant County Attorney, explained the rationale for the ordinance; reviewed the documents the county used in drafting the ordinance; then, reviewed the enforcement of the ordinance. (5:23 p.m.) Kohnke said she will be scheduling a meeting in Ponte Vedra to address public concerns with the ordinance.

(02/15/2000 - 4 - 5:26 p.m.)

#### DISCUSSION OF A COUNTY JOB FAIR

Reardon requested a Job Fair to be held in West Augustine for the County to target employment for the area; it would be available for all county residents. (5:30 p.m.) Rev. Frank Watkins, Pastor of the Restoration Time Deliverance Center, explained why the County Job Fair would be beneficial for minorities. Discussion followed regarding the hiring of minorities. (5:39 p.m.) Bob Peters, Personnel Department, announced the various places around the County that job fairs have been held; then, explained the six methods for advertising all positions. Discussion followed regarding the policy on hiring and the job fair. (5:52 p.m.) ***It was the consensus of the Board to hold a County Job Fair in West Augustine.*** (5:53 p.m.) Nathaniel Lacey, 555 Duval Street, commented in favor of a job fair being held in West Augustine. (5:59 p.m.) Rev. Nathaniel Jackson, 135 N. Rodriguez Street, commented in favor of a job fair.

(02/15/2000 - 4 - 6:04 p.m.)

#### PRESENTATION ON THE NEEDS OF SENIORS AND THEIR TRANSPORTATION ISSUES IN ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Cathy Brown, Director of the Council on Aging, addressed the transportation program. (6:09 p.m.) Bryan Norse, Operations Director, explained the transportation program that would dovetail both the funding that is being received for the Service Development Grant, in conjunction with the County, with funding that is hoped to be received directly from the County to provide transportation to, not only the transportation disadvantaged, but also for the general public. Norse concluded by saying the total cost to the County for this program would be \$173,000. Discussion followed regarding the routes and the bus schedule, the funding from the State, the commencement of the program, the local businesses possibly assisting in the funding of this transportation system, and the sustain ability of the bus service. (6:25 p.m.) Greta Larkin, Fiscal Director for the St. Johns County Council on Aging, explained some of the expanded senior services they would like to provide in the northeast and northwest quadrants of the County.

(02/15/2000 - 4 - 6:30 p.m.)

#### UPDATE ON THE STETSON TRACT

Reardon said he has been contacted by several people regarding what is taking place on the Stetson Tract. (6:33 p.m.) Teresa Bishop, Director of Planning, said there has been an appeal filed against the site plan approval that was made in November; that appeal will be coming to the Board of County Commission on March 14. Bishop explained that the site does have an approved site development site plan; the code does provide for an exemption that if someone has a bulkhead or any type of revetment or placement of rip rap, one is exempt from the 50' buffer requirement. Discussion followed regarding bulkheads, buffer requirements, and the ordinance being amended regarding bulkheads. (6:39 p.m.) ***It was the consensus of the Board to amend the ordinance regarding the 50' buffer requirement when a bulkhead is installed.*** (6:40 p.m.) Kohnke suggested all three agencies be present when this issue is addressed; the FDEP, SJRWMD, and the Corps. Bishop informed the Board that the County has issued a stop work order on the site.

(02/15/2000 - 5 - 6:45 p.m.)

OTHER BUSINESS

Howell said the City of St. Augustine had a tour of the Sister City in Spain. Representatives of Spain are now planning a trip to St. Augustine, and the City of St. Augustine is requesting the County assist in the expenses. (6:47 p.m.) Bryant suggested that this recommendation come from the TDC.

(6:48 p.m.) **Motion by Kohnke, seconded by Bryant, carried 5/0, to adjourn the meeting.** The meeting thereupon adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Approved March 14, 2000

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
James E. Bryant, Chair

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk