

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
JANUARY 30, 2004
(9:00 A.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: Karen Stern, District 2, Chair
Bruce Maguire, District 4, Vice Chair
Nicholas Meiszer, District 1
Marc Jacalone, District 3
Ben W. Adams, Jr., County Administrator
Daniel Bosanko, County Attorney
Yvonne King, Deputy Clerk

Absent was: James E. Bryant, District 5

Also present were: Joe Vonasek, Director of Management & Budget; Doug Thimms, Assistant Director of Management & Budget; Jesse Dunn, Budget Analyst; Dawn Cardenas, Budget Analyst; Joe Stephenson, Public Works Director; Troy Blevins, Superintendent of Recreation; Shorty Robbins, Administrative Manager of Recreation; Dick Thomas, Civic Roundtable.

(01/30/04 - 1 - 8:55 a.m.)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Stern called the meeting to order.

(01/30/04 - 1 - 8:55 a.m.)

II. ROLL CALL

All in attendance introduced themselves for the record.

(01/30/04 - 1 - 8:56 a.m.)

III. INTRODUCTION - COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Adams announced that the purpose of the workshop is to give some feedback to the budget staff on the desires of the Board on what direction to go regarding the various department budgets.

(01/30/04 - 1 - 8:56 p.m.)

IV. DISCUSSION OF PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP AND ITS PROCESS

Vonasek replaced several pages (pages 16, 17 & 25) in the workshop agenda packet. Vonasek then informed those present that the intent of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for the Board to participate and set the funding and program strategies for fiscal year 2005 and the budget.

(01/30/04 - 1 - 8:59 a.m.)

V. DISCUSSION OF SERVICE AREAS

(01/30/04 - 2 - 8:59 a.m.)

A. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the General Government service area classification; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

Discussion followed regarding which direction to take in preparing this year's budget, and working at the roll back rate.

Discussion ensued on the Admin/BCC Building, the uses of the Excelsior Building, Hastings Elementary School Renovations, Workers Compensation Fund and Health Insurance Fund, the General Fund Transfers and Reserves, Supervisor of Elections, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector and Clerk of Court-Finance Division, and Court Services.

(01/30/04 - 2 - 9:53 a.m.)

B. PUBLIC SAFETY

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Public Safety Sheriff's Operations service area classification, which includes: Law Enforcement, Corrections and Bailiff's Operations. Discussion followed regarding Constitutional Officers' Budgets.

Vonasek reviewed the other departments that are included in the Sheriff's Operations, which includes: E-911, Law Enforcement Trust, Communications Surcharge, Impact Fees-Law Enforcement, Special Programs and CIP Expenditures for the Sheriff. Vonasek then reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed regarding the E-911 upgrade, and maintenance projects at the jail.

(01/30/04 - 2 - 10:05 a.m.)

C. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Fire Protection and Control service area classification, which includes: Fire District Fund and Fire Impact Fees; then reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Emergency Medical Services service area classification, which includes the following: Emergency Medical Services, Communications, EMS Impact Fees, and EMS (Bad Debt) Refunds; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed regarding land purchase for two fire stations, the collection of EMS bad debts, and the Special Needs Shelter Emergency Generator.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Animal Control & Humane Society service area; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed regarding the Humane Society facility expansion.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Growth Management service area classification, which includes: Planning, Zoning, Development Review, Code Enforcement, Building Services, Housing Abatement Fund, Tree Bank Fund, and GIS; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed regarding a new Permit Center and permitting fees.

The meeting recessed at 10:38 a.m. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Utility Service Fund & Ponte Vedra Sewer Construction Fund service area classification, which includes Utility Services Fund, Water Treatment, Transmission & Distribution, County Laboratory, Wastewater Treatment & Disposal, Lift Stations, and Capital Projects; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Solid Waste Management service area classification, which includes the Solid Waste Fund; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Agriculture & Independent Agencies service area classification, which includes: Agriculture & Home Economics, Sea Grant College, Hastings Agriculture Research, St. Johns County Fairgrounds, Soil & Water Conservation District, St. Johns River Project, Sea Turtle Study, Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council & Ponte Vedra Zoning & Adjustment Board then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed regarding the Fairgrounds Facility.

(01/30/04 - 3 - 10:56 a.m.)

D. TRANSPORTATION

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Public Works - Transportation Trust Fund service area classification, which includes: Transportation Trust Fund, Road & Bridge Maintenance, Fleet Maintenance, Mowing Services, Traffic & Transportation, Engineering/Project Administration, Surveying & Mapping, and Real Estate and Capital Projects; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Public Works - Other Transportation Funds service area classification, which includes: Road Impact Fees, Northwest Road Project, Palm Valley Bridge Project, North Holmes Boulevard, Bond Transportation Improvement, and Sidewalk Mitigation Fund; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Special Districts Funds service area classification, which includes: Vilano Street Lighting, St. Augustine South Street Lighting, Elkton Drainage, Thompson Bailey Road MSBU, Private Roads MSBU, CH Arnold MSBU, and Rusty Anchor/Wendover Road MSBU; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

(01/30/04 - 3 - 11:06 a.m.)

E. ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Housing/State Housing Initiatives Partnership service area classification, which includes: Housing, SHIP, & World Commerce DRI Fund; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed concerning World Commerce Center DRI Fund.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Community Redevelopment Agency Funds and Economic Development service area classification, which includes:

Historic CRA, West Augustine CRA, Flagler CRA, Vilano CRA, and Economic Development/Tax Incentives; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

(01/30/04 - 4 - 11:09 a.m.)

F. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the County Health Department/Primary Care/Hastings Clinic service area classification, which provides and coordinates accessible medical, dental, nutrition, health education, outreach programs, and environmental health services; then, reviewed the funding history. Discussion followed concerning primary care and indigent care.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Social Services/Medicaid/Veteran Services/Choose Life Fund service area classification; then, reviewed the funding history. Discussion followed regarding Medicaid.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Independent Agencies service area classification, which excludes Humane Society and Hastings Clinic; then, reviewed the funding history. Discussion followed concerning the funding of the independent agencies.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Mental Health/Community Based Care/Alcohol & Drug Abuse Fund service area classification; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

(01/30/04 - 4 - 11:32 a.m.)

G. CULTURE & RECREATION

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Recreation & Parks service area classification, which includes: Recreation Facilities & Projects, Davis Park Fund, FBITF Funds, Julington Creek MSTU Fund, Northwest Tower Fund, Park Projects Fund & Recreation Projects (Beach Renourishment) Fund; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed concerning public swimming pools, the Hastings Equestrian Center, Pier Passes Revenue, Beach Renourishment, and Vilano Boat Ramp Dredging.

(11:43 a.m.) *It was the consensus of the Board to schedule a workshop on the County Fishing Pier Expansion.*

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Beach Services/County Pier/Galimore Center Funds service area classification, which includes: Beach Patrol, City St. Augustine Beach Patrol, Life Saving Corps, Beach Services, Beach Toll Collection, SJC Pier Operations, and Galimore Center Operations; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Golf Course service area classification; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed regarding golf course revenue.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Tourist Development/Amphitheater/Convention Center Funds service area classification, which includes: TDC Administration, Visitors & Convention Bureau, Category III Recreation,

Category II Programs, Amphitheater, and Convention Center; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed regarding the opening of the Amphitheater.

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Library Services/Library Expansion Fund/Public Building Impact Fund/Florida Arts License Plate Fund service area classification; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years. Vonasek reviewed the current and proposed capital projects. Discussion followed concerning the St. Augustine Beach Library, and Bartram Trail Library Expansion.

(01/30/04 - 5 - 12:00 p.m.)
H. DEBT SERVICE

Vonasek reviewed the departments that are included in the Debt Service Funds service area classification; then, reviewed the funding history, which shows the current and four previous fiscal years.

(01/30/04 - 5 - 12:01 p.m.)
VI. CLOSING COMMENTS


There were no closing comments.

(12:01 p.m.)
Bosanko informed the Board that County Staff has concluded all their legal aid meetings; then, informed them that the County is required to fund legal aid at some level. Discussion followed regarding a funding level.

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

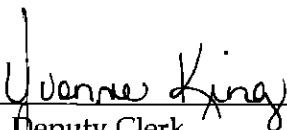
Approved: _____ March 16 _____, 2004

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
Karen R. Stern, Chair

RENDITION DATE 03/31/04

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: 
Deputy Clerk