

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA  
MARCH 9, 2004  
(9:00 A.M.)**

Proceedings of a regular 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  
                              James E. Bryant, District 5  
                              David E. Halstead, Assistant County Administrator  
                              Dan Bosanko, County Attorney  
                              Diane Gorski, Clerk's Office

(03/09/04 - 1 - 9:06 a.m.)

Chair Stern called the meeting to order.

(03/09/04 - 1 - 9:07 a.m.)

Commissioner Bryant gave the Invocation and Maguire led the Pledge of Allegiance.

(03/09/04 - 1 - 9:07 a.m.)

Stern stated that all five Commissioners were in attendance.

(03/09/04 - 1 - 9:07 a.m.)

There was no public comment.

(03/09/04 - 1 - 9:08 a.m.)

DELETIONS TO CONSENT AGENDA

There were no deletions to the Consent Agenda.

(03/09/04 - 1 - 9:08 a.m.)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

**Motion by Stern, seconded by Maguire, carried 5/0, to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended.**

1.     Approval of the Cash Requirement Report
2.     Sheriff's Bonds:  
      Cancel:       Paul M. Schrier       Kathryn Cope       Michael A. Stevens
3.     Motion to adopt **Resolution No. 2004-46**, approving the terms of the Lease Agreement from the Government of United States of America (VA Medical Center) for the existing space and adding additional rental space in the Health and Human Services Center

RESOLUTION NO. 2004 - 46

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA TO ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (VA MEDICAL CENTER) FOR THE EXISTING SPACE AND ADDING ADDITIONAL RENTAL SPACE IN THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CENTER

4. Motion to adopt **Resolution No. 2004-47**, approving the terms and authorizing the County Administrator to execute a certain Purchase and Sale Agreement for property needed for the improvements to Russell Sampson Road

RESOLUTION NO. 2004 - 47

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA TO APPROVE THE TERMS AND AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE A CERTAIN PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT FOR PROPERTY NEEDED FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS TO RUSSELL SAMPSON ROAD

5. Motion to award Bid 04-68, Fencing for Tillman Ridge Landfill, to the low bidder, East Coast Fence and Guardrail, in the amount of \$65,200.00
6. Motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between St. Johns County and the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office for the CBC Family Integrity Program and motion to authorize the County Administrator to sign
7. Motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between St. Johns County MIS and the District 4 DCF MIS offices for the CBC Family Integrity Program and motion to authorize the County Administrator to sign
8. Proofs:
  - a. Proof, Notice to Bidders, Bid No. 04-50
  - b. Proof, Notice to Bidders, Bid No. 04-57R
  - c. Proof, Notice to Bidders, Bid No. 04-61
  - d. Proof, Notice of Meeting, RFP No. 04-52 Evaluation Review, Design/Build for Kiddie Pool Renovations at the Willie Galimore Community Center, Friday, February 20, 2004
  - e. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, First Financial Employee Leasing, Inc.
  - f. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, Reynolds, Smith and Hills, Inc.
  - g. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, Owen Ayres and Associates, Inc.
  - h. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, Sunshine Recycling, Inc.
  - i. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, Edwards and Kelcey, Inc.
  - j. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, Environmental Services, Inc.
  - k. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, Taylor Engineering, Inc.
  - l. Proof, Certificate of Liability Insurance, Ellis & Associates, Inc.
- m. Proof, Certificate of Insurance, Professional Service Industries, Inc.

03/09/04 - 2 - 9:08 a.m.)

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO REGULAR AGENDA

County Attorney Dan Bosanko requested adding Masters Drive - Hazardous Condition to the Regular Agenda. Stern added Item 1a to the Regular Agenda

(03/09/04 - 3- 9:08 a.m.)

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

**Motion by Stern, seconded by Jacalone carried 5/0, to approve the Regular Agenda, as amended.**

(03/09/04 - 3 - 9:09 a.m.)

**1. REQUEST BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO ANNOUNCE PUBLIC MEETING DATES FOR THE DISCUSSION OF THE ST. JOHNS RIVER CROSSING CORRIDOR STUDY**

Imran Ghani, FDOT gave a brief PowerPoint Presentation, on the status of the River Crossing Corridor Study. Ghani announced that there would be two public meetings. The first meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 30, 2004 in the Switzerland Point Middle School Auditorium, 777 Greenbriar Road, Switzerland, Florida and the second meeting would be held at Clay County High School Cafetorium, 2025 Highway 16 West, Green Cove Springs, FL. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. with a formal presentation to begin at 7:00 p.m. Ghani stated that the FDOT published a website dedicated to this project: <http://www.sjrbridge.com>. Meiszer requested clarification on the exact locations of each corridor. Ghani explained that the four corridor options were in the vicinity of the Shands Bridge. Maguire expressed concern about overcrowding on CR 210 and requested an alternate exit point be designed. Meiszer asked if the bridge design had been decided upon. Ghani stated that the bridge design would be reviewed in future phases. Stern reviewed the public hearing dates, locations and times. Jacalone praised the FDOT's research and intent. Jacalone asked who made decisions regarding the corridor locations. Ghani explained that the FDOT made decisions in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, St. Johns River Water Management District, environmental entities, First Coast MPO, and affected counties.

(9:39 a.m.) Nicholas Morris, 5661 Crosswinds Court, requested a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation. Stern stated they would be provided at the public hearings. Morris requested the precise measurement on how far south of the Shands Bridge the corridor would be built. Morris stated that the purple corridor option was the least invasive and stated his approval for this option.

(9:42 a.m.) Cherie Lydick, 5725 Crosswinds Circle requested the precise measurement of how far south of the Shands Bridge the corridor would be built. She favored the purple corridor option, but was opposed to any impacts to the community or environment in the area. Ghani explained that the final roadway footprint would be 350' and would stay within 500' as defined in the study.

(9:44 a.m.) Donald Mancosh, 5075 SR 13 North, stated that the Popo Point Bridge area corridor option was originally thought to be a less expensive option, but evidently that was not true. He mentioned that in the past, the CR 16 Preservation Group had opposed a bridge or development in this pristine area. He stated that with past approval of Rivertown, keeping the area pristine would no longer be an issue. Mancosh explained that the residents in the northwest sector oppose future development. He explained that the corridor located near Orangedale would dislocate over 20 families. He explained that during the February 24, 2004 Commission meeting, Maguire had declared that he would never approve the taking a property through eminent domain. Mancosh stated that a project at the Shands Bridge would have that result. Mancosh

expressed his understanding that the logical decision would be to establish another corridor to expand traffic capacity and that future expansion would require careful planning and public involvement

(03/09/04 - 4 - 9:50 a.m.)

1A. REQUEST BY DAN BOSANKO, COUNTY ATTORNEY IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM TRACY UPCHURCH, ESQUIRE, ON BEHALF OF THE ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD THAT ST. JOHNS COUNTY INVESTIGATE HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS ON MASTERS DRIVE AND THE LACK OF SIDEWALKS FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING CROOKSHANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AS STATED IN FLORIDA STATUTE 1013.36

Bosanko reviewed Florida Statute 1013.36 and reiterated the importance of responding to the request within five days of receipt and that today was the fifth day. Bosanko reviewed the options to respond to this request. Meiszer stated the conflict was between pedestrian, bicycles and motor vehicles, and that a sidewalk was needed at least on one side of the street. He explained that the goal would be to keep residents safely off the roadway and that sidewalks were a necessity. Stern expressed her concern as well. Stern explained that she had previously met with members of the Community Association along with Bosanko and Greg Kennedy, Traffic and Transportation Manager and that they had discussed these issues and had agreed upon setting a future meeting between the area residents and county staff. (9:58 a.m.) Joe Stephenson, Director, Public Works Department stated that England, Thims and Miller had been hired to assist county staff in their investigation, and assessment of the problems and solutions. The research ascertained the following items needed improvement: 1. A lack of sidewalks, shoulders obstructed by trees, fences and houses. 2. There was no room for children to wait safely at the bus stops. 3. There was inadequate and obstructed street lighting. Stephenson stated that the long-term goal would be to have sidewalks on both sides of Master Drive and that right-of-way acquisition for the project would take considerable time and money to obtain. He explained that Masters Drive had varying widths of right-of-way; SR 16 to LaVilla - sixty feet, LaVilla to Cervantes - eighty feet, Cervantes to Evergreen - thirty feet. He noted that twenty-six feet of the right-of-way had already been paved which left only four feet available to build sidewalks on the narrowest end. He further explained that obtaining the required easements would take a considerable amount of time effort. He suggested that within 60 days, the County, in cooperation with the School Board and the City of St. Augustine would be working to identify alternate routes for pedestrians and bicyclists for safer travel, locations for reduced speed, school zones would be identified and that the County would consider building school bus waiting shelters. He stated that the School Board would need to re-designate bus stops to a safer location and that the county would work to obtain right-of-way and make sure that existing streetlights were cleared and visible and that new street lights would be added. Stephenson planned return to the Board with recommendations within sixty days. He announced that Masters Drive was being re-striped today and that lane widths would be reduced to eleven feet. (10:07 a.m.) Maguire commented that cars and people are too close together, and asked if it was mandatory that bus stops be on Masters Drive. Stephenson responded that the School Board would need to address the issue. (10:08 a.m.) Stern stated that she had spoken about school bus stop areas on Masters Drive in the past and that the School Board was aware of the problem. (10:09 a.m.) Meiszer suggested that the trees should be removed from the right-of-way to make way for public safety. Meiszer asked why the children on Masters Drive could not walk to the side streets instead of the other way around. Meiszer requested sidewalks be installed as soon as possible. (10:12 a.m.) Stern mentioned that traffic in the neighborhood was a problem and hoped that the county would review the area and the options available. (10:12 a.m.) Dan Bosanko, County Attorney, requested the Boards permission and

motion to respond today and to incorporate a brief memo that Stephenson would help draft regarding the status, condition and resolution of the roadway hazards. (10:13 a.m.) **Motion by Stern, seconded by Bryant, carried 5/0 to have the County Attorney inform the St. Johns County School Board that correction of the subject conditions are not practical at this time but that further study and actions were planned and that a brief memo would be forthcoming incorporating the plans and procedures stated above.**

(03/09/04 – 5 - 10:13 a.m.)  
COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

(10:13 a.m.)  
Commissioner Meiszer

No report.

(10:13 a.m.)  
Commissioner Maguire

No report.

(10:13 a.m.)  
Commissioner Stern

Stern announced that staff would be meeting today at 3:30 p.m. in Tallahassee on the old Capital steps. All of the team members who will be meeting with legislators during St. Johns County Day will be briefed on the few days staff will be spending in Tallahassee.

(10:13 a.m.)  
Commissioner Jacalone

No report.

(10:13 a.m.)  
Commissioner Bryant

Bryant announced that the Sunshine Bus Network had been sited as one of the five best practices in the United States for senior mobility and that the Federal Government Office of Accounting had requested the Sunshine Bus Network's participation in a federal survey.

Bryant mentioned that the Veteran's Administration (VA) Medical Clinic at Flagler West, which was funded by a State Grant, provided services that are invaluable. The VA Clinic has opened another wing housing a specialty clinic and laboratory. Bryant stated that access to the new facility is difficult and requested that Joe Vonasek, Director, Office and Management and Budget, review funding options and sources in the immediate future to facilitate Rick Tallman's, Director of the Veteran's Administration, St. Johns County, request to add twenty additional parking spaces which would include two handicapped spots. (10:19 a.m.) Tallman reviewed the purpose and need for the additional parking spaces, the new facilities, services and mentioned that there might be other clinics added in the future. (10:23 a.m.) Jacalone asked if the VA currently paid for space in the Health Department and Tallman stated that the Department of Veterans Affairs paid for the space. Jacalone expressed his approval. (10:24 a.m.) Stern mentioned that parking at the facility is difficult and that

she supported the additional spaces. (10:25 a.m.) Maguire inquired as to the possibility of building a central receiving area. Tallman explained that the VA is looking at that possibility. (10:26 a.m.) Bryant requested consensus from the board that Stephenson directs Road and Bridge staff to add additional parking spaces as soon as possible. (10:27 a.m.) Stern stated that the Board supported the request and Maguire concurred.

(10:27 a.m.)

County Administrator's Report

No report.

(10:27 a.m.)

County Attorney's Report

Bosanko provided a confidential memorandum regarding the Smith case, prior to the meeting that explained the settlement offer. Bosanko planned to reject offer, which closed on 3/12/04, because he had not had time to notice a closed-door meeting. He recommended a meeting be scheduled in the future. He stated that unless the Commission objected he would reject the offer. (10:28 a.m.) Stern stated that there were no objections

Bosanko provided a copy of a draft Sign Ordinance that verified the validity of the current sign ordinance. He requested that the Commission set a date for adoption hearings. (10:28 a.m.) Stern concurred

(10:29 a.m.)

Clerk of Court's Report

No Report.

**Motion by Jacalone, seconded by Maguire, carried 5/0 to adjourn.** With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

REPORTS:

1. St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners Check Register, dated March 9, 2004, for check numbers 348012 through 348291, totaling \$1,004,223.27

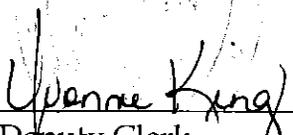
Approved March 23, 2004

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:   
Karen R. Stern, Chair

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

RENDITION DATE 03/31/04

By:   
Deputy Clerk