

**MINUTES OF MEETING
ST. JOHNS COUNTY SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FEBRUARY 22, 2006 - 8:00 A.M.**

Proceedings of a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, held in the auditorium at the County Administration Building, 4020 Lewis Speedway (County Road 16-A) and US 1 North, St. Augustine, Florida.

Present were: James E. Bryant, District 5, Chairman
Cyndi Stevenson, District 1, Vice Chair
Karen R. Stern, District 2
Ben Rich, District 3
Bruce A. Maguire, District 4
Ben W. Adams Jr., County Administrator
Dan Bosanko, County Attorney
Laura Barrow, Assistant County Attorney
Patrick McCormack, Assistant County Attorney
Terry Bulla, Deputy Clerk
Cathy Upchurch, Court Reporter

Proof of publication for the notification of a special/private attorney/client meeting regarding the Surfrider Foundation, et al, and St. Johns County, et al., Case No.: CA 04-09, was received having been published in *The St. Augustine Record* on February 9, 2006.

(02/22/06 - 1 - 8:07 a.m.)

Bryant called the special/private meeting to order.

(02/22/06 - 1 - 8:07 a.m.)

ROLL CALL

Bryant announced that all five commissioners were present.

1. SPECIAL PRIVATE ATTORNEY - CLIENT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 286.011 (8), FLORIDA STATUTES. THE SPECIAL MEETING WILL BE CONFINED TO SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AND LITIGATION EXPENSE STRATEGY PERTAINING TO THE LAWSUIT BETWEEN THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION, ET AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY, ET AL., CASE NO.: CA 04-89, IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY. THE SPECIAL MEETING HAS BEEN ADVERTISED FOR 8:00 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM A HAS BEEN RESERVED FOR THIS MEETING

Bryant announced the names of persons attending the meeting: James E. Bryant; Cyndi Stevenson; Karen R. Stern; Ben Rich; Bruce A. Maguire; Ben W. Adams Jr., County Administrator; Dan Bosanko, County Attorney; Laura Barrow, Assistant County Attorney; Patrick McCormack, Assistant County Attorney; and Cathy Upchurch, Court Reporter.

(9:01 a.m.) **Motion by Stern, seconded by Maguire, carried 4/0 with Stevenson absent, to adjourn the special meeting.**

Proof of publication for the notification of a special meeting regarding the Ashford Mills Comp Plan Amendment and DRI Development Order was received, having been published in *The St. Augustine Record* on February 9, 2006.

(02/22/06 - 2 - 9:19 a.m.)

Bryant called the special meeting to order.

(02/22/06 - 2 - 9:19 a.m.)

ROLL CALL

Bryant stated that all commissioners were present.

(02/22/06 - 2 - 9:20 a.m.)

Maguire gave the invocation and Stevenson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

(02/02/22 - 2 - 9:20a.m.)

CHANGES TO SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Bryant asked to reverse the order of the agenda items with item No. 3 to be heard first.

(9:21 a.m.) **Motion by Stern, seconded by Maguire, carried 5/0, to approve the agenda as amended.**

(02/22/06 - 2 - 9:44 a.m.)

1. PUBLIC HEARING - COMPAMD 2005-01 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS AS RELATED TO THE ASHFORD MILLS DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT (DRI) - REQUEST TO AMEND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2015 FUTURE LAND USE MAP AND GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES AS FOLLOWS: AMEND THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP FROM RURAL/SILVICULTURE TO RESIDENTIAL B; AMEND THE NORTHWEST SECTOR MAP TO DISPLAY ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS; AMEND THE 2015 FUTURE TRAFFIC CIRCULATION MAP TO DISPLAY ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS; AMEND OBJECTIVE H.1.6 TO ADD A POLICY AUTHORIZING THE ASHFORD MILLS DRI TO UTILIZE THE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES AS ESTABLISHED IN CHAPTER 163.3180(12), FLORIDA STATUTES, ALLOWING THE PAYMENT OF A PROPORTIONATE SHARE CONTRIBUTION TO ADDRESS TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY (PIPELINING); AND AMEND THE FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEDULE TO ADD THE PUBLIC FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROPOSED IN THE ASHFORD MILLS DRI

Ben Adams, County Administrator, said they were looking at continuing the remaining items on the morning's meeting, and were considering Thursday, March 9 at 9:00 a.m. for Ashford Mills to continue the meeting and Wednesday, March 29 for Silverleaf, which had originally been scheduled for the March 8, but would also be continued if the March 9th date were approved. Bryant explained the need for a continuance had resulted because District Secretary Baldwin, with DOT had contacted him. He said they had gotten the attention of everyone, up to and including the Governor, about how unsafe the CR 210 corridor was, especially leading into the CR 210, I-95 ramp. He stated that Secretary Baldwin was going to try to firm up, within two weeks, some dates they could go by for the interim fix at the interchange and also try to firm up a date on a permanent fix at that interchange.

(9:48 a.m.) Stern commented about the interchange at CR 210 and I-95 and the fact that it was a critical issue. She said it was her understanding that the applicant had worked very hard with Federal and State officials and took seriously the PZA recommendations for resolving some outstanding issues.

(9:49 a.m.) Bryant said the CR 210 corridor had been an issue for many years involving Federal, State and County governments. He said it appeared now that all three parties would be working together for a unified solution.

(9:50 a.m.) Stevenson said this had been a primary concern for her. She said water supply and regional transportation structure were critical issues, which had the largest lead times. She asked they be given the opportunity to discuss transportation issues and noted that several individuals were present that day to discuss the issues.

(9:51 a.m.) George McClure, on behalf of the applicant, said they had asked for and supported the continuance. He said they should have more information about the Intersection by March 9. He requested that the meeting be delayed until 1:30 p.m. as he would just be returning from out of the county.

(9:54 a.m.) Bryant said the real issue was solving the problem on CR 210 and he hoped that Silverleaf would buy into the solution solving process. He said they had to solve the safety issues there.

(9:55 a.m.) Rich said he could not attend the afternoon on March 9. He said the same situation was evolving at World Golf Village, SR 16 and SR 207.

(9:56 a.m.) Ellen Whitmere, 1178 Natures Hammock Rd. South, Fruit Cove. She stated concern about the Community Development Districts allowed by the 190 Statute and some of the negative issues allowed by the statute. She said they had gone from 3 to 15 CDDs in a short period of time and there was not adequate supervision of those Community Development Districts.

(10:00 a.m.) Leann Daddario, 1504 Drury Court, asked Bryant how the information would be disseminated to residents regarding what Secretary Baldwin came up with regarding the temporary and permanent fixes to CR 210 and I-95. Bryant responded that he would have staff get the information to them as soon as they had it available and it would be public information to all the Board members. Daddario said the situation was very dangerous at that intersection, with backups in both directions. She also inquired about how their decisions would impact CR 16A.

(10:04 a.m.) Kim Kendall, 856 Eagle Point Dr., spoke about the situation on CR 210 and said they could not handle one more car. She said they could not take another development until the traffic situation was resolved, and asked they slow down the developmental order, period. She said she wanted to see in the phraseology of the developmental order, that a development date should be contingent upon the date the roadwork was completed.

(10:09 a.m.) Vicky Griffis, 273 St. Johns Golf Drive, said she traveled I-95 and CR 210 daily and that her biggest fear was that it was going to become a Blanding Blvd. She said she was afraid to stop on I-95 and risk being rear-ended by a tractor-trailer, so she would pull over into the emergency lane, at the risk of receiving a ticket. She cautioned that she did not know how they would evacuate in the event of a hurricane.

(10:12 a.m.) Major Art May, of the SJC Sheriff's Department, appeared at the request of Stevenson. He said there was a significant increase of crashes on the corridor, and that the DOT was trying to get the situation fixed. He noted that schools also had a big impact on that area as well with many parents taking their children to school because of the early hours. He said it was just a matter of time before there would be a major rear-end collision on I-95. He reported that on CR 210 traffic backed up all the way to the Publix and that caused road rage situations. He said that CR 2209 would take a lot of the pressure off of CR 210 and encouraged the Board to move forward on that one.

(10:16 a.m.) Stevenson asked about a short-term emergency fix, an intermediate fix and a permanent fix and how it affected safety and the ability of emergency vehicles to get onto and off of I-95. May said it was an issue at certain times and would definitely slow down response time for emergency services. Stevenson also asked about hurricane evacuation. May said most people waited to leave and most left at the same time. He said it would be a jammed highway situation and would make evacuations extremely difficult. Major May added that two major truck stops were pouring trucks into that intersection and that large trucks were only allowed in the right lane which caused further problems. (10:22 a.m.) Stern expressed additional concern about the river crossing, the traffic coming from Clay County and how it affected the area.

(10:25 a.m.) Bryant said that he believed that there was now impetus to get the situation resolved. He said some of the developers were helping to provide funding for improvements to alleviate traffic in the area, and they now had DOT's attention. There was general discussion about CR 9B and 9B extension and the need for it to be extended into St. Johns County. (10:31 a.m.) Stevenson asked them to keep in mind that every major road in her district was under construction and would be for the next 3 to 5 years and asked that the entire area be considered when looking at fixes for the area. She said she would like to see a funding mechanism for the full fix be part of the discussion.

(10:36 a.m.) Motion by Maguire, seconded by Stern, carried 5/0, to continue agenda Item No. 3 until Thursday, March 9 at 9:30 a.m.

[\(02/22/06 - 4 - 10:36 a.m.\)](#)

2. PUBLIC HEARING - ASHFORD MILLS DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL IMPACT (DRI) DRI 2005-01 AND DRI DO 2005-02 - THE ASHFORD MILLS DRI WAS SUBMITTED IN JANUARY 2005. DRI PROJECTS FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES SET OUT IN CHAPTER 380.06 FLORIDA STATUTES. REVIEW OF THE DRI INCLUDES THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, ST. JOHNS RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FIRST COAST METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION, STATE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES, US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS, US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND ST. JOHNS COUNTY. THE PROJECT HAS PROCEEDED THROUGH THIS REVIEW AND WAS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIMEFRAMES ALLOWED BY FLORIDA STATUTES. THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ORDER (DO) ESTABLISHES THE CONDITIONS IN WHICH THE ASHFORD MILLS DRI MAY DEVELOP. THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL (NEFRC) ISSUED AN ASSESSMENT REPORT ON FEBRUARY 3, 2005.

(10:37 a.m.) Motion by Maguire, seconded by Stern, carried 5/0 to continue agenda Item No. 2 until Thursday, March 9 at 9:30 a.m.

[\(02/22/06 - 4 - 9:21 a.m.\)](#)

3. PRESENTATION ON A PROPOSED PROCEDURE FOR TRAFFIC CALMING REQUESTS, PRIORITIZATION AND PROJECT RANKING, EXAMPLE PROJECTS, AND REMAINING TASKS TO IMPLEMENT A TRAFFIC CALMING PROGRAM FOR ST. JOHNS COUNTY.

Joe Stephenson, Public Works Director, introduced Angelo Raul, of Volkert and Associates, who gave the presentation on traffic calming. He said they needed solutions that were sustainable, and he presented options that would assist in traffic calming. He reviewed the components that went into determining the

recommendations, traffic calming methods and construction costs for the various methods. Stephenson said the next step would be a draft policy, which would be presented to the Board in approximately 30 to 60 days.

(02/22/06 - 5 - 10:36 a.m.)

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Bryant reported there was a letter from the Department of Juvenile Justice that needed approval. (10:37 a.m.) **Motion by Rich, second by Maguire carried 5/0, to direct the County Administrator or his designee to sign the Letter of Agreement so that the information could be passed to St. Johns County regarding Juvenile Justice people that are being detained.**

(10:37 a.m.) Maguire noted that the headline in the St. Augustine Record regarding the bottling was completely incorrect. He asked for guidance on contacting Peter Ellis expressing their displeasure. Bryant stated said that the media had an obligation to be correct and factual and this was a breach of that trust.

(10:39 a.m.) Stevenson said they had the incentive completely wrong and failed to mention that it was the minimum incentive, which had been approved and was contingent upon a high quality water supply. She said she was stunned. (10:40 a.m.) Stern said she agreed and they should contact the Economic Development Council as well. She said much misinformation had been released. Bryant said the paper should have an open mind to their concerns and not take it as a vendetta. Maguire asked for a retraction to be presented on the front page above the fold just as the lead article had been that morning.

(10:42 a.m.) **Motion by Bryant, seconded by Maguire, carried 5/0, to adjourn.** With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Approved March 21, 2006

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
James E. Bryant, Chairman

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: James E. Bryant
James E. Bryant, Chairman

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: Cheryl Strickland
Deputy Clerk