

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
FEBRUARY 26, 2013
9:00 A.M.**

Proceedings of a workshop of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, held in the San Sebastian conference room at the County Administration Building, 500 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, Florida.

Proof of publication of a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County was received, having been published in *The St. Augustine Record* on February 15, 2013.

Present: Jay Morris, District 4, Chair
William A. McClure, District 3, Vice Chair
Cyndi Stevenson, District 1
Ron Sanchez, District 2
Rachael Bennett, District 5
Michael Wanchick, County Administrator
Patrick McCormack, County Attorney
Sindy Wiseman, Deputy Clerk

(02/26/13 - 1 - 9:00 a.m.)
CALL TO ORDER

Wanchick opened the meeting and explained the workshop process.

(02/26/13 - 1 - 9:00 a.m.)
Presenter - Michael D. Wanchick, County Administrator

1. 9:00 A.M. - DISCUSSION OF THE GOALS/OBJECTIVES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WILL HOLD A WORKSHOP ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMPLEX LOCATED AT 500 SAN SEBASTIAN VIEW, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE SAN SEBASTIAN CONFERENCE ROOM LOCATED IN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WILL BE TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Wanchick started the workshop with a Power Point presentation, *Exhibit A*, about the goal setting process. He covered the County's four existing goals: economic development, public safety, enhance the current infrastructure and quality of life in the West Augustine community and financial realities. He gave examples of some objectives to the goals, *Exhibit B*.

(9:12 a.m.) Stevenson was concerned about capital investments and deferred maintenance. She asked for an overview of the financial outlook of property tax trends. Timms said that those issues were to be presented March 19, 2013, and spoke about other deferred maintenance projects. Timms said there had been five years of property tax decreases and they would budget for zero growth. Stevenson referenced some of the areas that needed maintenance.

Discussion ensued on maintaining existing county assets (infrastructure), economic development, health, safety, and welfare (detox center), West Augustine, financial realities, and regional initiatives.

(9:26 a.m.) Sanchez concurred with the concerns mentioned and added financial stability of the County and quality of life to the list. He said the county needed a detox center. Discussion ensued on the maintenance.

(9:31 a.m.) Morris spoke about line item cuts and building reserves. Discussion ensued on reserves and cutting costs.

(9:35 a.m.) McClure spoke about new revenue and increasing reserves, without new taxes, reducing debt, bonds, schools and tourism. Discussion ensued about reserves and revenue and about State and county bids for maintenance going to companies from other counties. Morris restated the goals to this point; there was some rearranging of the objectives. Stevenson started discussion on fire stations. Wanchick agreed there was a need for new fire stations in several areas of the county. Stevenson started discussion on countywide services and communication with the community

(9:59 a.m.) Stevenson mentioned staff compensation. Wanchick stated the Condrey study had been adopted, and was being implemented. Discussion ensued on rearranging the goals and cost effective projects.

(10:08 a.m.) The board talked about the signage entering different areas of the county, such as Hastings, Armstrong, Flagler Estates, and Vilano Beach. McClure inquired about things from the budget they would want to get rid of.

(10:17 a.m.) McClure wanted to explore services offering revenues, versus taxation. He said many counties across the United States had explored these.

(10:19 a.m.) Timms said the financial advisor gave him a list of services other counties were charging for that we were not. Morris talked about accepting credit card payments. Discussion ensued about paying with credit cards and the fees attached to them

(10:24 a.m.) McClure suggested the state of the schools be one of the Boards concerns.

(10:29 a.m.) Wanchick said there were a lot of taxes and fees not collected in St. Johns County and asked if they were now off the table. There was discussion that it would be up to voters.

(10:31 a.m.) Stevenson discussed property and sales tax reform. Morris clarified with Timms that the county had good operating revenue through 2018.

(10:34 a.m.) Stevenson spoke about the quality of life and having a strong stable economy.

(10:41 a.m.) Stevenson was concerned about the pet shelter not having an isolation area and the consequences of that, and getting a sponsor for the volunteer recognitions. Discussion ensued on the subject.

(10:44 a.m.) Bennett started discussion about environmental protection, and balancing public access with protection.

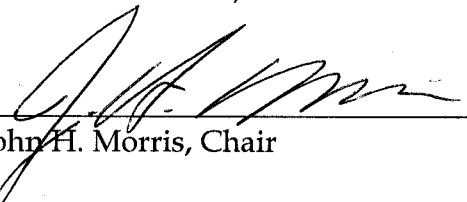
(10:47 a.m.) Timms spoke about infrastructure and the "high five" County elements which included built capacity, fire rescue emergency response, emergency

communications, stormwater mandate, and transportation infrastructure. He said the first three had been addressed, however, the stormwater mandate and transportation infrastructure were still outstanding. Discussion ensued on stormwater. Timms suggested adding tourism to their list.

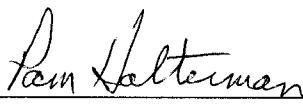
With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Approved _____ April 16 _____, 2013

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
John H. Morris, Chair

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: 
Deputy Clerk

