

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR MEETING
January 29, 2009

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, met in regular session at 3:00 p.m. with Chairman Desloge presiding. Present were Commissioners Akinyemi, Thael, Proctor, Rackleff, Dailey, and Sauls. Also present were County Administrator Parwez Alam, County Attorney Herb Thiele, Finance Director David Reid and Board Secretary Rebecca Vause

Invocations were provided by Clark Campbell Evans, of St. Pauls Methodist Church and Bea Copeland, Faith Presbyterian Church. Chairman Desloge then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Awards and Presentations

Consent

Commissioner Sauls moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Akinyemi, to approve the following Consent Agenda with the exception of items 1, 11, 13, 14, 16 & 19, which were pulled for discussion. The motion carried 7-0.

1. Acceptance of FY 2008-2009 First Quarter County Grant Program Quarterly Leveraging Report

Commissioner Rackleff requested that the item be pulled for further discussion.

Commissioner Rackleff noted that Homeland Security funds are received and administered by the Leon County Sheriff's Department. He asked that additional information on the expenditure of these funds be provided.

Commissioner Rackleff moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Sauls to approve Option # 1, as amended. Accept the FY 2008-2009 First Quarter County Grant Program Quarterly Leveraging Status Report and request additional detail regarding the spending of the Homeland Security funds. The motion carried 7-0.

2. Acceptance of the Commissioner Discussion items Status Report for Ongoing FY 2007/08 and FY 2008/09 First Quarter

The Board approved Options 1 & 2: 1) Accept the FY 2007/08 ongoing status report on Commissioner Discussion Items and 2) Accept the FY 2008/09 first quarter status report on Commissioner Discussion Items.

3. Approval of Minutes: December 9, 2008 Regular Meeting

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the minutes of the December 9, 2008 Regular Meeting.

4. Approval to Extend Agreement with DES of Florida, LLC for One Year in the Amount of \$15,655 for Web Site Maintenance and Hosting Services for the Tourist Development Council

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Agreement with DES of Florida, LLC for one year for web site maintenance and hosting services for the Tourist Development Council in the amount of \$15,655.

5. Approval of Coverage for Over-aged Dependent Children in County Medical Insurance Plans

The Board approved Option 1: Approve coverage for over-aged dependent children in County's medical insurance plans.

6. Approval of Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Tallahassee and Downtown Community Redevelopment Authority

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Tallahassee and Downtown Community Redevelopment Authority, and authorize the Chairman to execute.

7. Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers Submitted for January 29, 2009, and Pre-Approval of Payment of Bills and Vouchers for the Period of January 30 through February 11, 2009: \$7,681,368.00

The Board approved Options 1: Approve payment of bills and vouchers submitted for January 29, 2009 and pre-approval of payment of bills and vouchers for the period of January 30 through February 11, 2009: \$7,681,368.00

8. Acceptance of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Grant in the Amount of \$25,000

The Board approved Options 1 & 2: 1) Accept the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumers Services Grant in the amount of \$25,000, and authorize the Chairman to execute, and 2) Approve the Resolution and associated Budget Amendment Request

9. Approval to Submit 2008/2009 Florida Department of Health, bureau of Emergency Medical Services Matching Grant Applications

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the submittal of the 2008/2009 Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services matching grant applications.

10. Acceptance of a Proposed Public Awareness and Outreach Program to Educate Property Owners Regarding 2.1.9 Policy Changes

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the proposed public awareness and outreach program to educate property owners regarding 2.1.9 Policy changes

11. Adoption of an Enabling Resolution to Establish a Census 2010 Complete Count Committee

Commissioner Thael requested that the item be pulled for further discussion.

Commissioner Thael stated that the recommended seven members to the Complete Count Committee did not allow a broad enough representation from the community and suggested that membership be expanded to 21, with each Commissioner appointing three members to the Committee.

Commissioner Thael moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Rackleff, to approve Option 1, as amended: Adopt the Enabling Resolution establishing a local Census 2010 Complete County Committee and expand the Census 2010 Complete Count Committee to 21 with each Commissioner appointing three members to the Committee.

12. Request to Schedule a Consistency Review by the Planning Commission and Two Public Hearings Regarding a Proposed Amendment to the Leon County Code Sections Governing the Communication and Broadcasting Antenna and Antenna Support Structures

The Board approved Option 1: Direct staff to schedule a consistency review by the Planning Commission and two Public Hearings on the proposed Amendment to the Communication and Broadcasting Antenna and Antenna Support Structures Sections in the Leon County Code Chapter 10.

13. Approval to Award the Bid to the Tallahassee Democrat for the Advertisement of the Leon County 2008 Delinquent Tax Notices

Commissioner Proctor requested that the item be pulled for further discussion.

Commissioner Proctor questioned staff's recommendation to award the bid to the Tallahassee Democrat. He pointed out that, although the Tallahassee Democrat's bid was \$.01 cent less than the Tallahassee Advertiser, the Advertiser had a larger circulation and was free to the public.

Commissioner Proctor moved Option 2: Award the bid to the Tallahassee Advertiser for the advertisement of the Leon County 2008 Delinquent Tax notices at the rate of \$.32 per square inch. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Thael moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Akinyemi, to approve Option 1: Award the bid to the Tallahassee Democrat for the advertisement of the Leon County 2008 Delinquent Tax Notices at the rate of \$.31 per square inch.

Commissioner Proctor requested that staff reply to his concerns. Mr. Keith Roberts, Purchasing Director, responded that the delinquent notices are not printed as a part of either publication, but printed as an advertising supplement. The supplements are distributed to designated areas, i.e., Democrat and Advertiser outlets and also available at the Tax Collector's Office.

The motion carried 6-1 (Commissioner Proctor in opposition).

14. Approval of the Selection of Architectural Firm of BFBA/Spectra, A Joint Venture, to Provide Architectural, Engineering, and Interior Design Services for Phase 2A, Stage 2, of the Leon County Courthouse Renovations

Commissioner Proctor requested that this item be pulled for further discussion.

Commissioner Proctor voiced opposition to the Board of County Commissioners and County management staff being housed at the Courthouse. He opined that the Courthouse is not a "user friendly" surrounding for residents to meet with their elected officials or conduct business. He requested that the Board contemplate relocating the Commission offices from the Courthouse to a more accessible and welcoming surrounding such as the Bank of America (BOA) Building and inquired was there was a projected timeline for the County Commission to vacate the building.

County Administrator Alam announced that there were no plans to move County Commission Offices and if there is an inclination to relocate, planned renovations to the BOA Building would need to be revisited before renovations are started for other County departments.

Commissioner Thael stated that this issue had been raised and discussed previously and it was determined that the BOA Building would be purchased to house County staff and Constitutional Officers. He offered that it would not be cost effective to renovate and move Commission offices to the BOA and would not support a move.

Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Chairman Desloge, to approve Option 1: Approve the selection of BFBA/Spectra, A Joint Venture, to provide architectural, engineering, and interior design services for Phase 2A, Stage 2 of the Leon County Courthouse renovations, and authorize staff to negotiate an agreement for Board consideration.

Commissioner Rackleff stated that he would support the motion, but did not want to rule out a move in the future.

County Administrator Alam advised that the issue could be deferred and brought back for additional discussion. He emphasized that if there was any consideration of moving the Commission offices that it be noted now, before renovations are done to the BOA.

Commissioner Dailey withdrew the motion.

Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Chairman Desloge, to bring back an agenda item to provide a history and information on this issue at the February 12, 2009 Board meeting.

Commissioner Akinyemi confirmed that Commissioner Dailey's motion would not affect the approval of the architectural firm (as outlined in the agenda item). He commented on the importance of ensuring that citizens feel empowered and welcomed to visit and communicate with Commissioners, however, he is not convinced that a move to the BOA would solve this issue. He added that there are other avenues to reach constituents, i.e., holding commission meetings at various locations in the County. He opined that security challenges would remain the same at either location.

Commissioner Proctor expressed appreciation for the motion which allows time for discussion of the issue but would not derail the contract. He confirmed with County Attorney Thiele that the County is required to house the judges and staff and shared that the County had received requests in the past from the Chief Judge requesting additional space and County offices were freed up to accommodate the requests. Commissioner Proctor noted the possibility of another request from the Chief Judge and the County would again be looking for space for its employees.

Mr. Alam pointed out that the Board could approve the proposed contract and staff would bring back an agenda item on what County staff would be relocated to the BOA.

Commissioner Dailey withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Akinyemi, to approve Option 1: Approve the selection of BFBA/Spectra, A Joint Venture, to provide architectural, engineering, and interior design services for Phase 2A, Stage 2 of the Leon County Courthouse renovations, and authorize staff to negotiate an agreement for Board consideration. The motion carried 7-0.

Speaker:

Peter Okonkwo, 361 Collinsford Road, expressed thanks to the Commission for their hard work and the manner in which they conduct County business.

Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Chairman Desloge, to bring back an agenda item to provide a history and information on this issue at the February 12, 2009 Board meeting.

Commissioner Rackleff confirmed with Mr. Alam that all the space in the BOA has been allocated and no space is occupied by the County Commission.

Commissioners Thael, Akinyemi and Sauls stated they would not support the motion as previous Commission's had reviewed and discussed the issue many times and deemed a move was not appropriate. It was noted that during these economic times, it was not fiscally responsible to expend funds to alter the proposed relocation plans.

Commissioner Dailey offered that three current Commissioners were not on the Board at the time the decision was made on where to house Commission offices and would welcome an opportunity to provide his thoughts on the issue.

The motion failed 3-4 (Commissioners Akinyemi, Sauls, Thael and Desloge in opposition)

15. Adopt of Revised Policy No. 93-6 "Records Management"

The Board approved Options 1 & 2. 1) Adopt revisions to Policy No. 93-6, "Records Management", and 2) Direct Facilities Management staff to develop procedures consistent with Board policy.

16. Adoption of Revised Policy No. 99-2, "Parking - County Downtown" Policy, and Approval of a Parking Meter Agreement with the City of Tallahassee

Commissioner Thael requested that the item be pulled for further discussion.

Commissioner Thael asked staff to enter into discussions with the City of Tallahassee to analyze when it would be financially feasible to build a parking garage on the 1.5 acres acquired through the purchase of the Bank of America Building.

Commissioner Thael moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Akinyemi, to approve Options 1 & 2, as amended: 1) Adopt revised Policy No. 99-2, "Parking - County Downtown", and 2) Authorize the County Administrator to execute a Parking Meter Agreement with the City of Tallahassee, in a form approved by the County Attorney, and 3) direct staff to bring back a feasibility analysis on options for the 1.5 acres, which include alternative ways to approach the parking situation.

Commissioner Akinyemi reported that he was looking at ideas to improve accessibility to constituents (including parking) and would bring this information back to the Board.

Commissioner Rackleff voiced his support for alternative sources of transportation and indicated that he would endorse a "parking buy out program" as an incentive not to rent a parking space. He opined that downtown needs more destinations, not parking. He asked the maker of the motion to consider adding to the motion the identification of alternative ways to approach the parking situation. Commissioner Thael, as the maker of the motion, accepted the amendment.

Commissioner Dailey requested that the motion include discussions on how the County could partner with the Riley House and other local historic sites.

Commissioner Thaele moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Akinyemi, to *Options 1 & 2, as amended: 1) Adopt revised Policy No. 99-2, "Parking - County Downtown", and 2) Authorize the County Administrator to execute a Parking Meter Agreement with the City of Tallahassee, in a form approved by the County Attorney; 3) direct staff to bring back a feasibility analysis on options for the 1.5 acres, which include alternative ways to approach the parking situation, and enter into discussions with the Riley House and other local historic sites on possible partnerships.* The motion carried 7-0.

17. Approval of Amendment to 1996 Lease Agreement with Central Telephone Company of Florida, dba Spring/Centel - Florida

The Board approved Option 1: Approve the Amendment to the 1996 Lease Agreement with Central Telephone Company of Florida dba Spring/Centel - Florida, and authorize the County Administrator to execute.

18. Acceptance of a Perpetual Sidewalk Easement for the Acquisition of Property for the Magnolia Drive/Lafayette Street Intersection Improvements

The Board approved Option 1: Accept the Perpetual Sidewalk Easement for the acquisition of property for the Magnolia Drive/Lafayette Street Intersection improvements, and authorize the Chairman to execute.

19. Approval of Extension of the Lake Carolyn Estates Homeowners Association, Inc. Settlement Agreement

Commissioner Thaele requested that the item be pulled for further discussion.

Commissioner Thaele shared that he was contacted by a homeowner regarding the possible transfer of ownership of the lakes to the County. He requested staff to enter into discussions with the heirs and neighbors about the feasibility of the County acquiring these lakes.

Chairman Desloge commented that he was hesitant for the County to take on ownership of the lakes.

Commissioner Thaele moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Desloge, to approve *Option 1, as amended: Approve a six-month extension to the Lake Carolyn Estates Homeowners Association, Inc. Settlement Agreement for completion of the improvements to Lakes Anna, Carolyn, and Jeff and direct staff to enter into discussions with heirs and neighbors regarding ownership of the lakes.* The motion carried 7-0.

Citizens to be Heard on Non-Agendaed Items (3 minute Limit)

Carlos Alvarez, 1451 Lafayette Cove Road, thanked the Board for conducting the Stormwater Workshop and addressing stormwater issues. He voiced concern over the drainage from the north into the Alford Arm of Lake Lafayette and its affect on flooding. He requested that the County analyze what the stormwater system does and consider adding box culverts as a possible solution and added that a number of proposed public work projects drain into the basin.

General Business

20. Consideration of Levying the Tourist Development Fifth-Cent Tax

County Administrator Alam explained that the County currently levies a four cent tourist tax. He stated that there were funding issues to be addressed by the Board, i.e., COCA, Performing Arts Center, and Delta Airlines guarantee. Mr. Alam commented that should the Board decide to pursue the fifth-cent tourist tax, staff would bring back an item to the Board, requesting to schedule a public hearing with a draft ordinance, specifying how the tax would be spent.

Speakers:

Pace Allen, 104 West 5th Avenue stated that he looked forward to an open and honest debate about how tourist development tax funds are used. He announced that he attended the TDC meeting and articulated that three (out of nine) members of the TDC Board were in favor of raising the fifth cent tax. Mr. Allen stated that a review of how the fourth cent is currently being spent is warranted and emphasized that it should be spent on marketing and tourism.

Denise Allen, 104 West 5th Ave., asked that the Board reconsider levying the fifth cent tax and review how the fourth cent is spent. She expressed concern over the impact that the taxes have on local hotel industry.

Commissioner Rackleff articulated that a 5% local tax for lodging was not uncommon and offered that the tax would not have an impact on hotel stays. He stated that the funding and identified projects would improve and enhance Leon County as a tourist destination and would create and sustain destinations and that would benefit hoteliers.

Commissioner Rackleff moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dailey to approve Options 1 & 2: 1) Authorize staff to prepare a draft ordinance and to schedule a public hearing to consider levying the fifth-cent tourist tax, and 2) Direct staff to include funding for the Council on Culture and Arts in a revised tourist development plan, whether the plan is funded by three or four-cent.

Commissioner Dailey voiced appreciation on being appointed as the Board's representative to the TDC and stated he would always try to relay the message of the TDC to the Commission. He reported that the TDC members strongly encourage the Commission to review how the current four cents are being spent. He voiced support for the request and remarked that all County dollars should be continuously reviewed to ensure that public tax dollars are being spent wisely. Commissioner Dailey advised that the TDC had concerns about using the tourist development monies for the performing arts center and acknowledged their reservation with spending the fifth cents exclusively for the performing arts center or for COCA activities. He indicated that there was support to entertain discussion on the fifth cents if it would benefit marketing, advertising, and provide an opportunity to put money back into the trust fund.

Commissioner Dailey opined that the fifth cent would have minimal, if any, impact on the vast majority of County residents, as they would not be paying the bed tax, however it would provide approximately \$800,000 in revenue. He asserted that the proposed tax, compared with other areas of the State, was not an unreasonable number and suggested that the local hotels should pay more attention to what they are charging for room rates. Commissioner Dailey suggested that the fifth cent would provide an opportunity to replenish the TDC trust fund, invest in the community, tourism and the promotion of the community.

Commissioner Proctor expressed reservation with utilizing public money to support a Delta Airline guarantee. He stated that he would support a discussion on the fifth cent, and verified that the fifth cent is the last statutorily authorized tourist development tax allowed.

Commissioner Akinyemi stated that funding should continue for the performing arts center, as it is a key element of tourism and also for COCA. He emphasized that additional revenue sources should not come from taxes, but through the creation of new opportunities, i.e., new services, new businesses and stressed the need for continued dialogue on this issue. Commissioner Akinyemi indicated support for the issue as its impact would be minimal and would be provided by individuals living outside the area. He stated the importance of working with the Chamber and the TBVC to develop a strong airline marketing campaign.

Commissioner Proctor expressed reservations over utilizing the fifth cent tax to subsidize Delta Airlines and offered that monies could be better utilized to support cultural art programs such as the Tallahassee Boys Choir and other deserving entities in the community.

Commissioner Sauls requested that the TDC's request for a review of the fourth cent be included in the motion. Commissioner Dailey preferred to keep the issues separate.

Speaker

Jon Moyle, 118 N. Gadsden Street, President of the Performing Arts Center, stated that they are working hard, meeting goals and expanding membership and encouraged the Board's continued support. He added that if the Board moves forward with the fifth cent, its members would like to be included as part of the conversation along with the Tallahassee Boys Choir and others.

Chairman Desloge articulated that he would support the motion because it is designed for a specific purpose.

The motion to approve Options 1 & 2 carried 7-0.

Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Sauls, to direct staff to review how the fourth cent tax is being utilized, as requested by the TDC. The motion carried 7-0.

21. Consideration of a Leon County Foreclosure Prevention Program

County Administrator Alam explained that the County was eligible to receive up to \$2 million from the State Housing Trust Fund to provide home ownership services, down payment assistance and foreclosure prevention assistance. He added that staff propose a Foreclosure Prevention Program be instituted to assist individuals facing foreclosure, to receive up to \$7,500 in assistance in the form of a deferred payment loan. Mr. Alam noted that very strict criteria would be established to receive the funds.

Speaker:

Mary Williams 1112 S. Magnolia Dr., #203, stated that she was employed by Consumer Credit Counseling Services (CCCS) and they are in full support of the County moving forward in implementing this program. She informed the Board that the CCCS is staffed locally and has over 300 counselors available seven days a week, 24 hours a day; homeowners can also access the "Homeowners Hotline" anytime.

Commissioner Thaelle inquired if the proposed program would result in fewer dollars for first time home buyers. Vince Long, Deputy County Administrator, responded that the entire program is contingent upon receipt of funds from the State Housing Trust Fund.

Commissioner Thaelle moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Sauls, to approve Options 1 & 2: 1) Approve the Leon County Foreclosure Prevention Program, and 2) Approve the amended Local Housing Assistance Plan to include the Foreclosure Prevention Program guidelines.

Commissioner Rackleff commented that there was 1,437 foreclosures in Leon County last year and this is a very serious problem. He asked Ms. Williams her insights into why so many individuals fell delinquent. Ms. Williams responded that most situations occur due to circumstances surrounding a job, sickness, and predatory lending practices.

The motion carried 6-0 (Commissioner Proctor out of Chambers)

Commissioner Sauls welcomed and introduced Boy Scout Troop Pack 119.

22. Approval of the Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP) Joint Planning Board Bylaws

Commissioner Sauls moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Rackleff, to approve Option 1: Approve the proposed Bylaws of the Community Human Services Partnership Joint Planning Board.

Chairman Desloge reminded Commissioners that the Joint Planning Board was newly reconstituted as a governing body for the CHSP process. He recommended that the bylaws be approved, yet request that the CHSP reviewing entity make recommendations on governance and come back to the Board as appropriate. He shared that this was the same action that was approved by the City Commission at their last meeting.

County Attorney advised that the last sentence of Section B (1) be amended to replace the word "must" with "should". He proposed that the sentence would now read "At least one of the members should be a minority".

Commissioner Sauls accepted the amendment to the motion.

The motion, as amended, carried 5-0 (Commissioners Dailey and Proctor out of Chambers)

23. Approval of Agreement Awarding Bid to CEM Enterprises, Inc. for the Construction of the Smith Creek Road Bridge Improvements in the Estimated Amount of \$89,765

County Administrator Alam pointed out that the recommendation represents the highest bid submitted for the project, however, the other three bidders were deemed non-responsive as they did not meet the MBE set aside goal of three percent.

Commissioner Sauls shared that this bridge was located in her district and was very much in need of repair.

Commissioner Sauls moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Thaelle, to approve Option 1: Approve the Agreement awarding bid to CEM Enterprises, Inc. for the construction of the Smith Creek Road Bridge Improvements in the estimated amount of \$89,765 and authorize the County Administrator to execute.

Chairman Desloge professed a concern with spending an additional \$30,000 due to an MBE requirement not being met and asked staff to respond.

Keith Roberts, Purchasing Director, explained that potential bidders, if they are unable to meet the minority targets, are required to submit a MBWE Program Plan Form which states that a good faith effort was made to meet the minority participation requirement.

County Attorney Thiele advised that the Board could choose to re-bid the services, but could not award the bid to another contractor.

Chairman Desloge inquired the timeframe that would be expected if the project was re-bid. Mr. Roberts stated that the turnaround time would be five to six weeks.

Commissioner Akinyemi stated that he too was concerned with paying the additional monies; however, vendors must understand that established County policies must be met or, at a minimum, a good faith effort made to comply.

Commissioner Dailey voiced caution about establishing a precedent which allows vendors who do not follow the rules of the law and the County's policies.

The motion carried 5-1 (Commissioner Desloge in opposition and Commissioner Proctor out of Chambers)

Citizens to be Heard on Non-Agendaed Items (3 minute limit)

Speakers

Sandra Frazier, 1230 Hemlock Drive, President Twin Lakes Neighborhood Homeowners Association (HOA) stated that the culvert crossing under the only entrance to the neighborhood was in bad need of replacement and presented a safety hazard to neighborhood residents. The neighborhood hired a contractor to make the repair, but a neighboring private homeowner refuses to allow the contractor to use his property for staging and access to the culvert. She asked that the Board take immediate action to protect the safety of the residents. Information further detailing this issue was provided to Commissioners.

Commissioner Rackleff moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Dailey, to authorize the County Attorney to review the facts and bring back recommendations on actions the Board can take to assist the neighborhood.

Dave Balla, 1637 Twin Lakes Circle, provided photos of the damaged culverts and explained the damage.

Jana Currie, 1645 Twin Lakes Circle, declared concern for the safety of her family over using a road that could collapse at any time. She noted that emergency vehicles must use this road to gain entrance into the neighborhood.

Susan Roberts, 1616 Twin Lakes Circle, pointed out that the expense to repair the culvert is being paid for by the neighborhood; the County is being requested to intervene to allow the work to be done. She commented that emergency vehicles would not be able to come into the neighborhood should the culvert collapse.

Paige Powell, 1577 Twin Lakes Circle, shared that the entrance road is unsafe and she is concerned for the safety of her family.

Commissioner Thaeil stated that the situation was dire and inquired from the County Attorney if the County had any type of emergency authority to intervene.

Mr. Thiele requested that he be given time to consider some ideas.

Commissioner Thael offered a substitute motion to direct the County Attorney to provide assistance to the neighborhood in resolution of this matter.

Commissioner Dailey agreed that this is an emergency situation and opined that the law provides protection to homeowners as they cannot be denied access to their property. It is also a public health and safety issue.

Commissioner Dailey suggested that the motion be **amended to direct Public Works staff to check the safety and engineering of the culvert to complement the legal opinion**. He added if it is not safe, immediate action needs to be taken, because of the fact that this is the only entrance into the neighborhood. **Commissioner Thael accepted the amendment to the motion.**

Chairman Desloge articulated that his support to help the residents in any way possible, but noted that the neighboring property in question is private property.

Commissioner Proctor offered that emergency vehicles must be able to respond to an emergency and that the County could invoke its authority regarding Public Safety and Welfare.

The motion as amended carried 7-0.

Comments/Discussion Items

County Administrator

- Vince Long, Deputy County Administrator, introduced Maggie Theriot as the County's new Sustainability Coordinator.

Discussion Items by Commissioners

Commissioner Proctor

- Requested a Resolution of Welcome to Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Presiding Prelate of the Twentieth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church General Conference.
- Inquired if assistance is available to elderly individuals who require that their home be modified as handicapped accessible.
 - Candice Wilson, Health and Human Services Director, responded that assistance is available and that senior citizens are prioritized, based on the severity of the need.
- *Commissioner Proctor moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Thael, to ask the County Attorney to bring back an agenda item clarifying the roles and function of the Comprehensive Plan and the University's Master Plan in reviewing and approving future developments and expansions.*
 - Commissioner Akinyemi stated support for the motion and **offered a friendly amendment that the current study being done of Comp Plan zonings be expanded to include Commissioner Proctor's concerns.** He indicated that Master Plan approval for FAMU and FSU projects require only the City's review and approval. **The friendly amendment was accepted by Commissioner Proctor.**

- Wayne Tedder, Director of Planning, provided that Statute language states that a review is required only by the host local government in which the Master Plan exists (all properties included in the Master Plan are in the City limits). Regardless of where it is located, any Master Plan for any university has to be consistent with the local government's Comprehensive Plan.
- Mr. Tedder confirmed that FSU did send a copy of its Master Plan to the County for review and comment.
- Commissioner Dailey called the question, which was seconded by Chairman Desloge.
- *The motion, as amended, carried 5-2 (Commissioners Desloge and Dailey in opposition)*

Commissioner Akinyemi

- Suggested that PSA's be done to publicize and encourage use of the LEONListens web site.
- Encouraged Commissioners and staff to be trained in disaster preparedness.

Commissioner Dailey

- Requested a Resolution for the Tallahassee Boys Choir honoring them for their selection to participate in Inaugural ceremonies to be presented at the February 12, 2009 Board Meeting.
- Requested a Resolution for the FAMU Marching 100 honoring them for their selection to participate in the Inaugural Parade to be presented at the February 26, 2009 Board Meeting.
- *Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Proctor, to bring back an agenda item to revisit the Marketing and Advertising budget for the Tourist Development Council. The motion carried 7-0.*
 - Commissioner Dailey provided marketing and research information to be entered into the record.
 - Commissioner Rackleff asked the status of hiring a consultant to review TDC activities. He added that the Board needs to know where the TDC is headed before allocating a lot of money.
 - Commissioner Dailey responded that the TDC Board agreed that the study was agreed that this would be a great tool to help as the Council moves forward. He shared that the cost of the study would be approximately \$10,000 - \$20,000 and recommended that funds located outside of the TDC budget
 - Commissioner Rackleff confirmed with Ken Morris, TDC Interim Director, that there were TDC monies available to fund the study.

Commissioner Rackleff:

- Shared that he networked with individuals from other local governments and organizations while attending the Inauguration to get an insight into what types of projects could be funded.

- Noted that he will arrive early to attend the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. and encouraged Commissioners to attend and make an impact.
- Asserted the need for broadband service in Southside homes.
- Suggested for future consideration, that planning staff 1) try to figure out how to connect dead-end subdivisions and 2) establish multiple entry points onto internal corridors.

Commissioner Thael

- Encouraged Commissioners to participate in the Northwest Florida Extension Stakeholders meetings to be held throughout the year, via teleconferencing.

Chairman Desloge

- Requested a Resolution for the Tallahassee Urban League recognizing their 13th Annual Time Out for Drugs Destroy Dreams Campaign.
- Recommended that Mike Pate, Executive Director, Knight Community Foundation, be invited to make a presentation on the Catalyst Program.
- Requested that the Board reconsider the addition of no-frills showers in the Courthouse. He added that the County spends millions of dollars a year on healthcare and the County should make every effort to encourage its employees to be active and healthier.
 - Commissioner Thael endorsed the idea and noted that Chairman Desloge had successfully championed a wellness campaign within the County.
 - Commissioner Thael noted that there were funds in the contingency fund to move the project forward.
 - Commissioner Akinyemi expressed support for the request.
 - *Commissioner Dailey moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Thael, to direct staff to bring back an agenda item to reconsider the construction of showers in the Courthouse. The motion carried 7-0.*
- Shared that leadership from all entities attended the Economic Stimulus Committee earlier today and finalized the projects that would be presented as part of the Tallahassee Capital Region Stimulus Request. He added that:
 - The request provides 13,000 - 14,000 jobs;
 - Totals \$1.1 billion collectively, and
 - Was a collaborative effort between FSU, FAMU, TCC, Leon, Wakulla, Gadsden, Jefferson Counties, City, local hospitals, Leon County Schools.
 Chairman Desloge stated that he wanted all Commissioners to be comfortable with the document and for it to be widely distributed to educate the public on what is being done.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

ATTEST:

BY: _____

Bryan Desloge, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners

BY: _____

Bob Inzer, Clerk of the Court
Leon County, Florida

DRAFT