REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WORKSHOP OF THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 12, 2018

Present: Commissioner Jeffrey W. Bergosh, Chairman, District 1
Commissioner Steven L. Barry, District 5
Commissioner Grover C. Robinson IV, District 4
Commissioner Douglas B. Underhill, District 2
Honorable Pam Childers, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Jack R. Brown, County Administrator
Alison Rogers, County Attorney
DeLana Allen-Busbee, Office Assistant III, Clerk and Comptroller’s Office
Angela D. Crawley, Assistant to the County Administrator

Absent: Commissioner Lumon J. May, Vice Chairman, District 3

Location: Ernie Lee Magaha Government Building, Board Chambers, First Floor
221 Palafox Place, Pensacola, Florida

Report prepared by: DeLana Allen-Busbee

AGENDA NUMBER

1. Call to Order

Chairman Bergosh called the Committee of the Whole (C/W) Workshop to order at 9:03 a.m.

2. Was the Meeting Properly Advertised?

The C/W was advised by DeLana Allen-Busbee, Office Assistant III, Clerk and Comptroller's Office, that the meeting was advertised in the Pensacola News Journal on July 7, 2018, in the Board's Weekly Meeting Schedule.
AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

3. Local Option Sales Tax IV Plan

A. Board Discussion – The C/W discussed the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) IV, as presented by Assistant County Administrator Amy Lovoy, and which was also provided in hard copy, and:

(1) Was informed by Ms. Lovoy that:

(a) Based on the Budget C/W Workshops, several items are being moved to LOST, including the asset management system from the Supervisor of Elections from the 1.8 million currently allocated; and

(b) Items include Junior Achievement, in the amount of $20,000; the Gulf Coast African American Chamber of Commerce, in the amount of $60,000; Escambia County School Readiness Coalition, in the amount of $238,875; and the Town of Century, in the amount of $50,000; and

(2) Was advised by County Administrator Brown that the summer intern program, in the amount of $200,000, can be moved to LOST also;

(3) Heard a request from Commissioner Bergosh that any item that can be added to LOST be added since there is more latitude with LOST than with the General Fund;

(4) Reviewed the allocation for Public Works/Drainage LOST projects, as presented by Joy Jones, County Engineer, and Ms. Lovoy, and made the following changes:

(a) Split the Dunaway Lane project in half with $250,000 allocated in 2019 and $250,000 allocated in 2020;

(b) Moved the Floridian ditch restoration project to 2019, in the amount of $150,000;

(c) Moved the Midas-Muldoon area project to 2023;

(d) Moved the Chandler Street project to 2022; and

(e) Moved the Willowbrook project to 2019; and

(Continued on Page 3)
3. Continued…

A. Continued…

(5) Reviewed the allocation for Public Works/Transportation LOST projects, as presented by Joy Jones, County Engineer, and David Forte, Traffic and Transportation Manager, was advised by Commissioner Underhill that he wants to see the funding for Sorrento Road identified, and made the following changes:

(a) Moved the 4-laning of Pine Forest Road, in the amount of $200,000, into 2018; and

(b) Moved $200,000 from the Pensacola Beach project to get started on Pine Forest Road and discussed the potential methods for re-allocating the money back into the Pensacola Beach project; and

(6) Reviewed the allocation for Public Works/Resurfacing LOST projects, as presented by Wes Moreno, Deputy Director, and made no change;

(7) Discussed Commissioner Barry’s idea concerning whether inmate road crew officers and employees could be funded through LOST and requested that staff look into this possibility; and

(8) Was advised by Commissioner Underhill that he would like to see the numbers for resurfacing 1/20th of roads in Escambia County to keep up with the deterioration of the roadways; and

B. Board Direction – None.

4. Progress Update on the New Correctional Facility

A. Board Discussion – The C/W viewed and discussed a PowerPoint Presentation, which was also provided in hard copy, entitled New Escambia County Correctional Facility – Progress Update, presented by Steve Jernigan, Bay Design, and Bob Dye, Interim Facilities Director, and the C/W:

(1) Was informed by Mr. Jernigan that:

(a) The construction progress is going well, the mobilization for construction/site clearing is complete, the site preparation and clearing is being completed, and the auger cast piles are continuing to be installed;

(Continued on Page 4)
4. Continued…

   A. Continued…

   (1) Continued…

   (b) As far as design development, review meetings were conducted May 15-17, 2018, and a follow up security electronics and hardware review was held June 5-7, 2018; and

   (c) The 75% plans were distributed for review; and

   (2) Was informed by Shane Lyle, Director of Architecture for GRW, that:

   (a) The exterior of the building, colors, and patterns are ready to be determined;

   (b) Based on feedback from the Board, GRW explored colorization options, rather than simply a gray building; and

   (c) After working with County staff, the color scheme that is being presented is a slate blue and off-white for the building and Mr. Lyle would like any additional feedback from the Board; and

   (3) In response to concerns about the white color being difficult to maintain, was informed by Mr. Jernigan that the material would be metal panels with a smooth surface that would be easier to keep clean, and was chosen based on wanting to keep within the off-white to light gray color family due to the energy saving potential;

   (4) Heard agreement from Commissioner Bergosh and Commissioner Robinson on changing the white panels to a light gray; and

   (5) Was advised by Mr. Jernigan that all timelines have currently been met; and

   B. Board Direction – None.
5. **ECAT (Escambia County Area Transit) Adopt-A-Shelter Program**

A. Board Discussion – The C/W discussed a proposal for the ECAT Adopt-A-Shelter Program, presented by Tonya Ellis, Mass Transit Division Manager, and the C/W:

(1) Was informed by Ms. Ellis that:

   (a) The program was brought to staff’s attention because a civic group requested to donate shelters to ECAT with the ability to do advertising;

   (b) ECAT does currently have an advertising program, which includes 1,095 bus stops and over 80 bus shelters and benches;

   (c) After looking into other transit systems, staff found that other systems do an adopt-a-shelter program;

   (d) Based on research, staff would like the Board to consider a similar program where individuals or civic groups can adopt a shelter and put their name on the shelter or bench and assist with maintaining cleanliness of the area; and

   (e) This would be in addition to the current advertising program already in practice; and

(2) Was advised by Commissioner Barry that he would like to know if the value can be established for the adoption of the shelters and whether the County or a department within the County can establish a 501(c)(3) non-profit, and was advised by County Attorney Rogers that it is possible;

(3) Was advised by Commissioner Barry that, in his opinion, it would be worthwhile to pursue creating a 501(c)(3) so that tax letters can be provided for corporations and other donors, as the benefit of a tax write-off would likely aid in participation;

(4) Was advised by Assistant County Administrator Lovoy that, if she remembers correctly, the donor assigns the value to what they are donating, so staff can suggest an amount, but that the donor would ultimately determine the value;

(5) Was advised by Commissioner Bergosh that he supports the program and would like to see this same concept moved forward in regard to roadway adoptions;

(6) Heard comments from Commissioner Robinson that he recommends keeping separate non-profit groups for separate funds; and

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5. Continued…

B. Board Direction – The C/W recommends that the Board move the Adopt-A-Shelter Program and include the idea of establishing a non-profit for this purpose.

**Recommended 4-0, with Commissioner May absent**

6. Bay Center/Wind Creek – Advertising

A. Board Discussion – The C/W discussed a sponsorship advertising package and viewed sample ads from Wind Creek Casino and Hotel for the Bay Center, and;

1. Was informed by Commissioner Bergosh that the Board needs to decide whether they will accept the $15,000 from Wind Creek to allow them to advertise at the Bay Center;

2. Was informed by County Attorney Rogers that the advertising will consist of social media, indoor, and outdoor advertising, and it is being brought before the Board because there is a County policy concerning the display/advertising of adult entertainment;

3. Heard comments of support from Commissioner Bergosh and that, in his opinion, gambling does not fall under the category of adult entertainment;

4. Was informed by Cyndee Pennington, General Manager of the Bay Center, that Wind Creek would not be the named sponsor of the arena and that Lewis Bear currently advertises with the Bay Center;

5. Heard comments of support from Commissioner Barry;

6. Heard comments from Commissioner Robinson regarding his support based on the premise that citizens visiting Wind Creek are not compelled to gamble and can take advantage of other amenities provided by the casino;

7. Heard comments against the advertising package from Commissioner Underhill because, in his opinion, gambling is a toxic force and strips the economy;

8. Heard comments from Commissioner Robinson regarding his opinion that allowing the advertising should not be considered an endorsement; and

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6. Continued…
   
   A. Continued…

   (9) Was advised by Commissioner Barry that the Poarch Band of Creek Indians are the largest non-agency donor to schools in the north part of District 5, and that if their money is good enough to support public education, he does not see why the Board would turn it down;

   (10) Was advised by Commissioner Bergosh that the Board’s policy should be re-opened and a firm stake put in the ground; and

   (11) Was advised by Commissioner Underhill that the majority of citizens in Florida have always moved to curtail gambling; and

B. Board Direction – None.

7. Adjourn

Chairman Bergosh declared the C/W Workshop adjourned at 10:44 a.m.