



## *NEWS RELEASE*

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### Wakulla County Commissioners 2008 Board Priority Annual Retreat

Crawfordville, Florida – The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners held their Second Annual Retreat on December 11, 2007 to determine what top priorities the County should focus on in 2008. County Administrator Ben Pingree stated, “These priorities reflect the current will and direction of the Board and serve as a roadmap to direct county staff towards building Wakulla County’s future. This retreat was a great success.” Mr. Pingree initiated the process of a board retreat to provide staff direction soon after his arrival in early 2007.

Each Commissioner had an opportunity to identify the issues they would like to have prioritized. After identifying the priorities each Commissioner ranked his top five priorities. Scores for all five Commissioners were combined to provide an overall ranking by the Board. In ranking order the priorities are as follows:

- ❖ #1 – Clean Up of Bays (To Include: sewer expansion into Live Oak Island; and conclude negotiations with Talquin to include shutting down of the existing treatment facility near Shell Point).
- ❖ #2 – Transportation Improvements (To Include: Improving Highway 319 from Crawfordville to Leon County Line; Improving Highway 319/98 Intersection; and Improving the North/South Alternate Road Corridor).
- ❖ #3 – Upgrading Neighborhood Infrastructure (To Include: Stormwater, Parks, Roads and Sewer for Wakulla Gardens, Greiner’s Addition, Lake Ellen Estates and Magnolia Gardens).
- ❖ #4 – Support Funding for Civic Center.
- ❖ #5 – Recreation Program Expansion (To Include: Equestrian Center/Pioneer Village; Funding for Community Center; and Regional Park for North Wakulla County).

Chairman Ed Brimmer commented, “I am happy this board was able to discuss a wide diversity of ideas in an extremely cordial manner.” He added, “This process is another example of the many improvements made by Wakulla County in the past three years.” These items will be ratified at the January 22, 2008 Board Meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Welch, Office of Policy & Public Information at (850) 926-0919.