



## *NEWS RELEASE*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 21, 2007

Contact:

Jessica Welch

Office of Policy & Public Information

(850) 926-0919

### Wakulla County BOCC Approves their 2008 State & Federal Legislative Appropriation Requests

Crawfordville, Florida – The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners held a Special Meeting on December 11, 2007 to identify their top priority state and federal legislative appropriation requests for the upcoming 2008 legislative cycle. According to Ben Pingree, County Administrator, 2007 served as the first staff-initiated attempt to stimulate this Board planning action well in advance of the normal state and federal legislative appropriation cycles. He expects an increased level of both commissioner and staff participation in the legislative process at the state and federal levels.

The following is the 2008 legislative priority requests approved by the Board:

#### State Requests:

- Funding for Operational Improvement to the Crawfordville Highway transportation corridor
- Funding for Sewer Expansion to Wakulla Gardens (and related sewer infrastructure improvements)
- Support for Funding for the Planned Wakulla County Civic Center (former Expo)
- Funding for the Stormwater Study for Crawfordville Area
- Funding for Wakulla County Courthouse Remodeling/Expansion
- Support for the Florida Association of Counties and Small County Coalition's Legislative Efforts
- Support for any Tallahassee or Leon County request to protect Wakulla Springs (sewer enhancements)

#### Federal Requests:

- Funding for Enhancement to Intersection of US 98 and US 319
- Funding for Sewer Expansion to Wakulla Gardens (and related sewer infrastructure improvements)
- Funding for Sewer Expansion to Live Oak Island

Since this Board action, staff and the County's contract lobbyists have already begin the process of working with legislative delegation members and their key staff to begin pursuit of these requests. Routine reports will be given on any progress made throughout the upcoming year. Part of the legislative strategy also includes active commissioner participation in advocating for these projects, in coordination with our state and federal representatives, in Tallahassee and Washington, D.C.

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