



NEWS RELEASE

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Wakulla County Commissioners Acquire 2009 Board Priorities

Crawfordville, Florida – The Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners held their Third Annual Retreat on December 8, 2008 to determine the top priorities the County to focus on in 2009. “The retreat was a great success with several staff, lobbyists and citizens in attendance”, commented County Administrator Benjamin Pingree.

The Board began the brainstorming session where each Commissioner was given an opportunity to identify the issue(s) they would like to have considered. After identifying the priorities, the Board discussed ideas that needed further clarification and also combined similar or related ideas. After further discussion, it was recognized that some of the proposed priorities could be accomplished by staff as assigned projects by County Administration. Subsequently, the Board narrowed the list to five priorities. Consensus was reached by the Board, and that all priorities were considered equally critical for Wakulla County, and therefore did not rank the priorities in order. In no ranked order, the priorities are as follows:

- ❖ Community Center (including Youth Activities);
- ❖ Spring/Bay Quality (including: Sewer, Septic, Storm water, and Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements);
- ❖ Upgrade Fire/EMS Facility (including: Healthcare Services);
- ❖ Energy Conservation (including: Energy Star Certification, LEED Standards, Advisory Group, Public Transit – park & ride);
- ❖ Comprehensive Plan & Update Land Development Code (including: Smart Growth, Visioning of Wakulla County and Economic Development).

Chairman Howard Kessler commented, “I am pleased to see the new Board work in such a meaningful and productive manner”. These items will be brought back to the Board for ratification at the January 20, 2009 Board Meeting. In addition, staff will be providing the Board with quarterly status reports.

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