BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP: REGARDING PUBLIC WORKS

BUDGET AND FIVE YEAR PLAN

TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2012

The Board of County Commissioners in an for Wakulla County, Florida met for a Workshop on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 with Chairman Alan Brock presiding. Present were Commissioners Randy Merritt, Lynn Artz, Jerry Moore, and Mike Stewart. Also, present were Assistant County Administrator Tim Barden, County Attorney Heather Encinosa and Deputy Clerk Evelyn Evans

Chairman Brock called the Workshop to order at 5:00 p.m.

David Edwards and Cleve Fleming provided information to the Board regarding the ESG Budget and Five-Year Plan. The budget was provided to the Board last week for the public works department which included water system, sewer system, solid waste, roads, and

SCOP & SCRAP – Resurfacing paving projects are Emmett Whaley from 319 to Lawhon Mill is in the next cycle; 2013 will be from the end of 98 into Spring Creek and then Ochlockonee Street from behind the Courthouse to Cedar Street; 2014 will be Trice Lane. Comments were made about adding bike lanes and sidewalks and where this is feasible it will be done. SCOP & SCRAP are competitive with other communities and D.O.T. makes the selections from roads that are submitted to them.

Road striping, tree trimming, bridge repairs and traffic light maintenance are all areas that require money to be budgeted each year. There are two projects programmed for FY2013 in Road Infrastructure. There is $125,000 for road striping and $250,000 for Upper Bridge Repairs. The cost to stripe a road is $15,000 per mile. There are life cycles on roads and the Board was advised that there are existing roadways in developed neighborhoods that will have to be resurfaced and this has to be budgeted funds or paid out of the one-cent sales tax.

Dirt Roads – the one-cent sales tax has made a huge improvement for dirt roads and there is $34 million worth of dirt roads in the county to pave. It costs $2,670 per mile per year to grade the roads and $650 per mile to mow the roads.

One-Cent Sales Tax – This was approved by voters in 1987 for 15 years, and in 2002, voters renewed it for another 15 years. The funds received are allocated based upon a formula of 60% for roads infrastructure, 20% public facility infrastructure, 15% for public safety infrastructure, and 5% for parks and recreation infrastructure. The expenses must be for fixed capital outlay with a life expectancy of 5 years or more.

The one-cent sales tax fund revenue for FY2013 is estimated to be the following: Public Facilities $368,172, Parks and Recreation $92,043, Road Infrastructure $1,104,516 and Public Safety $276,129. There is a significant fund balance of $1.3 million in this fund due to reduction of expenditures in FY2011 to preserve cash balances. The total budget for FY2013 is $3.2 million.

Debt Service – There are two road paving loans that are paid from this fund. The annual principle and interest payments for FY2013 total $728,536. One of the loans expires in 2013 and the other one is 2017.

Capital Expenditures – In FY2012-13 the budget for EMS includes $150, 000 for the purchase of an ambulance and $194,000 for the Sheriff to purchase vehicles in FY2013. There is also a need for expansion of Animal Control and to purchase a new Animal Control Truck which amounts to $325,000.

Public Facilities – There is $449,144 programmed for a portion of the new Fire/EMS Facility and $247,035 for the new Sheriff’s Annex.

Sewer/Water – The Water and Sewer Fund generated $1million in FY2012. The Water and Sewer Fund’s principle sources of revenue are the 3 different water providers, Sopchoppy, PAWS and Talquin who bill water customers on behalf of the county. The County charges a one-tie access fee of $3,850 for all new customers hooking on the system. Access fees are to be used to fund capital improvement projects associated with extension and renewal. The county also charges a tipping fee for waste haulers who bring residential effluent to the plant for disposal. The County also owns a small water system that generated $28 thousand in FY2012 and the customers have never had an increase, but in 2012 the rate will increase and be comparable to customers in Panacea and Sopchoppy.

Solid Waste – In FY2010/2011, the County went with a county-wide contractor for solid waste and recycling collection. The Contractor selected through a competitive bidding process was Waste Pro. This is a 10 year contract for services.

Landfill Monitoring – There are three landfills that the county is required to monitor annually at a cost of $85,000. The services are provided through a consultant.

Landfill closure – The County will need to close its Class 3 landfill in the very near future. A portion of the estimated $1 million cost has been escrowed; however, additional funding in the form of a loan will need to be utilized to fund the remainder.

The forecast for the Solid Waste fund shows that the fund will be viable without the need for any increase in the $196 assessment during this period.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned by order of the Chair at 6:55 p.m.