

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, JANUARY 4, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

Presentation by the Chair on county participation "Lee National Denim Day"

Chair David Flowers commended staff on taking part in the "Lee National Denim Day" and contributions to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. A certificate of appreciation was presented to the Highlands County BCC in sincere thanks for the generous support for the fight against breast cancer. See SMB 36 Page 48.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending January 4, 2000.

- B. Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. Upcoming meetings:**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action Agenda as amended:

- < Approval of Grant Agreement with County Stay Well Clinic under the County Administrator.
- < Appointments to Professional Services Acquisition Committee under the County Administrator.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

- A. Sebring Recreation Club: Request for recreation funds**

Dorothy Spillman presented a request for assistance from the Board of County Commissioners for shuffleboard court covers at the Sebring Recreation Club. Carl Cool presented recommendations that the

offer provide the same scenario as the Board did for the City of Avon Park, except that we match only the dollars that either the City or the Recreation Club can provide for the covers. He did not recommend that we go back and match old expenditures. The Board discussed the option of matching roof repairs or shuffleboard covers. James Hundley, President of the Recreation Club, spoke in favor of any matching funds to the Club. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, that the Board of County Commissioners enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring to provide 50 per cent of the funding, up to \$13,000, for the requested Sebring Recreation Club shuffleboard court covers, and this amount to be taken from the Capital Improvement contingency undesignated recreation funds. Rick Helms, Budget Officer, advised that roof repairs do not qualify under the infrastructure fund, but if they use the money for court covers, that is considered new construction. Mike Eastman requested that evidence be presented showing how the expenditures are spent. The Board Attorney advised that the Interlocal Agreement will cover these concerns. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 49.

B. Charlene Edwards, Redlands Christian Migrant Assn.: Request for funds

Charlene Edward, representing the Redlands Christian Migrant Association, presented a request for funding assistance to provide a barrier and add additional safety for the RCMA Lake Placid Child Development Center, located on Interlake Blvd. Ms. Edwards introduced Harriet Porter, wife and assistant to Bob Porter, of the Muriel Society in Lake Placid. She spoke regarding the support received from organizations, such as the Muriel Society, Toby's Clown Alley, and the Lake Placid Women's Club. The Board discussed the project and questioned if the funds will qualify as new construction. Rick Helms, Budget Officer, advised that the project will qualify if the property is owned by a government entity or is used for a public purpose.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to provide funds in the amount of \$10,000 to help with the completion of the project, with the contingency, that we enter into an Interlocal agreement with the Town of Lake Placid, subject to a letter of approval of the final plans from the School Board. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 50. for copy of request.

Commissioner Bullard requested that staff prepare and bring to the Commission some guidelines for mid year capital improvement requests to be considered by the Board. Suggestions were as follows:

- ' It serves a public purpose.
- ' It is an appropriate expenditure of public funds.
- ' It is reviewed by the Recreation and Parks Committee first.
- ' It involves matching funds, preferable leverage of public and private funds.
- ' It meets the criteria that the project could not be completed without county assistance.

C. Mike Willingham: Request resolution supporting amendment to enabling legislation

Mike Swaine, Attorney, representing the Sebring Airport, presented request for adoption of a resolution in support of an amendment to the enabling legislation of the Sebring Airport Authority. The legislation will increase the bid limit from \$5,000 to \$10,000, extend the Airport's jurisdiction to include 17 acres on the

east side of Airport Road, immediately south of the old Phillips power plant, include a confidentiality clause that will promote the business and interest of the community. Along with the Economic Development Commission, this section will allow the authority to operate out of the Sunshine on certain projects under 288.075, Florida Statutes. This clause could keep documents it received from companies interested in relocating to the airport's industrial park confidential. However, those documents will become public 90 days before action is taken by the airport authority board.

The Chair opened the floor to the public:

Wendell Whitehouse, representing the Spring Lake Homeowners Association, spoke in opposition to the requests and questioned the intended use for Parcel "C." Airport Attorney, Mike Swaine said there are no plans for the acreage. He stated that the land was bought to protect the entrance to the airport, and the county will still control the zoning. If any zoning is changed, it must come back before the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Whitehouse stated that the question was not answered and he still does not know what the property will be used for, and asked that the Board not lend their support of this legislation.

Monty Boone, resident of Spring Lake, spoke in opposition to the Confidentiality Clause.

Carl Hancock, Spring Lake Homeowner Association, spoke in opposition to the request.

Clifford Mitchell, resident stated concerns. Mary Back, resident of Spring Lake spoke in opposition to the request. Pete McDevitt, representing the Airport Authority, presented a plat map depicting the location of the property. Airport Executive Director, Mike Willingham stated that deed restrictions now dictate what kind of uses is allowed and would accompany the land forever. He said that the type of business could be disclosed in the beginning, just not the name of the company, and the association will be notified by certified letter whenever related documents become public.

Commissioner Stokes asked if this move will change the way that the airport does business with the EDC. Mike reported that it will make the daily operations much more efficient. Richard Conover from Avon Park, spoke in opposition to the Confidentiality Clause. Gabriel Reed, Avon Park Lakes, spoke in opposition to a change in the legislation.

Attorney Wendell Whitehouse reiterated the potential problems that may occur with approval of this legislation. Carl Cool complemented the state legislatures in seeking the opinion of local government toward this issue. Commissioner Maxcy believes that the residents of Spring Lake will have more of a voice, when the property is made a part of the Spring Lake Subdivision. Commissioner Bullard said he thought the confidentiality provision will help Spring Lake residents because of the 90-day requirement for public disclosure of documents. Commissioner Stokes entered into the record 12 phone calls and 11 faxes from the residents of Spring Lake in opposition to the legislation with the main concern being expanding the boundaries and the confidentiality clause. The Chair also entered into the record 10 phone calls and 22 faxes or messages to the county office in opposition. See Airport file for copy.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Resolution in support of the legislation to promote the general business interest and industrial interest of the City of Sebring and Highlands County, to operate under the terms of Section 288.075, Florida Statutes, and to maintain certain records confidential and exempt under the provision provided. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Roland Kelly spoke in opposition to the deed restriction on his property being taken away. Mike

Willingham stated that the deed restrictions will remain in place and the property that the Airport has purchased will also be subject to the deed restrictions imposed.

Mike Gaumer questioned how long the deed restrictions will remain in place. Mike Willingham stated they will remain forever. Ross Macbeth suggested a resolution be adopted in the same form as the City of Sebring. The maker of the motion and the maker of the second accepted this form. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 75.

Break 10:10 - 10:20 a.m.

D. County Engineer: Appointments to Water Advisory Committee

Ramon Gavarette, County Engineer, presented proposed appointments as recommended by Wendell Whitehouse, Chairman of the Water Advisory Committee. He asked that Clell Ford be removed from the membership to allow him to have discussion with other board members. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the new members list for the Water Advisory Committee, as recommended with the removal of Clell Ford from the list and adding Steve Handley as an alternate in Commissioner Stokes District. The County Engineer will bring back recommendations on the open slots. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 51 for copy of resumes.

E. Asst. County Admin.: Appointments to Professional Services Acquisition Committee

Carl Cool presented recommendation for committee appointments for RFQ evaluation of franchised residential refuse collection. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the listed appointments for the enhanced Professional Services Acquisition Committee for the Landfill RFQ.

Current Committee

Tom Portz, Chair	Jerry Leszkiewicz	George Von Drake, Alternate
John Clark	Jim Polatty	Ramon Gavarrete, Alternate

Proposed Enhanced Committee for Landfill RFQ

Tom Portz, Chair	John Clark	Val Seifert
Jerome Leszkiewicz	Ramon Gavarrete	Rick Helms
Jed Secory		

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 52.

F. Board Attorney

No report presented.

G. County Administrator

1. Stay Well Clinic request

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Grant Agreement

between the Highlands County Hospital District and the Highlands Stay Well Clinic, and execute the Agreement between Highlands County and the Hospital District providing for the transfer of funds and payment to the Clinic. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See Hospital District file for copy.

2. Calender from the News Sun

Carl Cool presented the Highlands County *Calendar for 2000 and the 98-99 Annual Report*. The Board commended Lisa Burley for the fine effort accomplished.

H. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent Agenda as listed:

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills**

Law Library	1,645.01
General	1,779,878.04
County Transportation Trust	41,341.60
E911 Operations	76.72
Intergovt Radio Communication	517.11
Conservation Trust	5,980.56
Local Government Infrastructure	81,027.71
Fl Boating Improvement	622.09
Affordable Housing Assistance	25,520.20
Special Law Enforcement	1,088.11
Sold Waste	30,722.12
Placid Utilities	3,241.20
Highway Park Utility	154.20
Risk Retention Fund	3,109.79
Employee Benefit	199,733.38
2. **Approval of minutes of 12-14-99 meeting.**
3. **Approval to execute agreement with SFCC for EMT training.**
4. **Approval to accept fire vehicles and equipment, declared surplus by the Sebring Airport Authority. See SMB 36 Page 53.**
5. **Approval of grant contracts with Convention/Visitors Bureau and Ridge Area ARC.**
6. **Approval to execute FEMA Emergency Food/Shelter grant with United Way serving as the fiscal agent. See SMB 36 Page 54.**
7. **Approval of budget amendments 99-00-77 (purchase of a wide format scanner) and 99-00-85 (CDBG-Sebring Raceway).**
8. **Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-72 (repair of Govt Center air conditioner) 99-00-76 (Elections Warehouse expansion) 99-00-82 (Vantage Point and Thunderbird Hills project drainage) 99-00-83 (purchase of an F500 pick up truck). See Res. Book 13 Page 75.**

9. Approval to adopt resolution extending the local state of emergency. See Res. Book 13 Page 76.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Gabriel Read spoke regarding the county policy on frontage roads. He questioned the impact of Highway 27 hearing approval on the Board policy. Carl Cool explained that the policy was not changed. The issue will be addressed at the development time. It was taken off as a zoning issue and left on as a development issue. The applicant will have to comply with all other rules that are in place, such as environmental review at the time of development. Mr. Read suggested that the policy should be addressed in the beginning, when the zoning is requested.

Richard Conover of Avon Park, presented questions to the Commission regarding when the City and County will hold workshops for the new budget year. The Chair responded that he has not set a pro-active plan. It could be issue driven, and is not a bad idea to hold joint workshops. Mr. Conover also asked why specific wording was added to the advertisement for planning & zoning meetings. Commissioner Bullard advised that he asked that the verbiage be included, just as a Sunshine measure. Mr. Conover asked if the Annex Renovation will allow 25% vacancy for occupancy and future growth. Mr. Cool advised that there are several vacant rooms and he feels that there is at least 25% vacancy available for future expansion. Mr. Conover also recommended that the Board appropriate more funds in the future to the Sheriff for traffic control. The Chair advised that the Sheriff may be requesting two new officers for traffic control and he will be supporting that option.

6. COMMISSIONERS

The Chair commended Commissioner Bullard on the Y2K steering committee project.

Hospital Board Appointments

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to reappoint Jim Clinard in District four, and to appoint Robert Palmer to a four-year term in District two on the Highlands Hospital District Board. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 55 for copy of resumes.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____

Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, JANUARY 18, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending January 18, 2000. The Farm Report was also given.

- B. Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. Upcoming meetings:**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. *Mr. Cool encouraged everyone to attend the Heritage Festival on January 22, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. The Board gave a consensus to send a letter of support for the festival with the Chairman's signature.* Clell Ford urged the Commission to attend the Friends of Lake Istokpoga meeting at the Lorida Civic Center. A representative of the South Florida Management District will be speaking regarding the Kissimmee Basin Marsh Supply Plan. This is a plan document that the District is putting together to determine water use in the next twenty years.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action Agenda as presented and amended:

- < Move County Engineer item B down to be heard just before item G, Consent Agenda.
- < Update on the Solid Waste RFQ under the Asst. County Administrator.
- < Add Release of lien as a second item under the Board Attorney.
- < Discussion of Consent Agenda items number 8-9-10-13 under the County Administrator at the request of Commissioner Bullard.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Maureen Kelly: Presentation of Area Agency on Aging

Kevin Roberts, Human Services Director, advised that the purpose of this presentation was to enlighten the Commission on Senior Services in Highlands County. He introduced Miki Kavanaugh, Chairman of the Board for NuHope of Highlands County, Sandy Foster, Executive Director of NuHope and Maureen Kelly, Executive Director for West Central Florida Area Agency on Aging, Inc. Maureen addressed the Board on the local impact of the dramatic increase in the aging population. In Highlands County the Area Agency contracts more than \$1,286,000 with Nu-Hope of Highlands County and Florida Rural Legal Services to provide the services that support elders aging with dignity in safety and security. She gave a slide presentation with the focus of the presentation on Florida's policy for Aging and the impact to Highlands County. The County Administrator questioned the allocation amount in relation to the population of residents over 60 years of age. Maureen explained that the ratio depends on the amount of people that fall into the eligibility guidelines or medicaid level eligibility in order to get the larger portion of the dollars. If the director identifies these people living in the County, then the funds will increase. Commissioner Bullard commended Maureen for her work, but stated concerns that Highlands County does not receive the amount specified in the formula. Gabriel Read presented questions regarding funding for workers within the school program. The Chair asked that Mr. Read meet privately with the Executive Director for answers. See SMB 36 Page 56.

C. Emergency Operations Director: Presentation on Strategic County Fire Services Plan

Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, reported that MGT of America will be making a formal presentation on the Strategic County Fire Service Plan. Donald Long, representing MGT of American and Tom Sigfreid, of Fire Services of America, presented a formal report and submitted the assessment and study to determine whether the county needs paid, full-time firefighters for the rural incorporated areas of the county, now covered by various volunteer departments. The following recommendations were presented:

- The volunteer departments need to implement a countywide program that standardizes training, recruiting and retention of firefighters
- Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Operations should be located together
- Expanding to a countywide fire service with the 13 individual fire departments retaining their names
- Establishing consistent hiring policies and procedures
- Giving more authority to the Emergency Operations Director
- Re-evaluating the number and location of fire stations
- Establishing the nearest unit response to the emergency and dropping district boundaries
- Establishing response time criteria and have equipment and firefighters based in areas where the most calls are received
- Coordinate training efforts and keep detailed records
- Firefighters certified as emergency medical technicians or paramedics respond with the county ambulance to a medical emergency as first response
- Set up a program for systematic replacement of equipment
- Develop fire prevention activities, including the regular inspection of certain buildings

- Computer reporting of fire incidents among the various departments should be implemented

Tom reported that these suggestions can be followed even if the county decides not to implement a countywide fire department. Whatever the Board decides to do with the report, it is a tool for the chiefs to use in the future. The Chair suggested that the Board accept the report and study it, in the meantime, the Fire Services Task Force will receive a copy and make a recommendation back to the Commissioners. Commissioner Maxcy asked if this issue will go to referendum or is it a Board decision. Ross Macbeth advised that there is no requirement to go to referendum, and the Board can make the decision. Commissioner Gose asked that the chiefs be allowed to have comment before the Board issues the final payment. Commissioner Bullard related that the payment schedule is established within the agreement and the final payment will be made after recommendations are received.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to accept into the record the Plan as draft, and forward to the Fire Service Task Force for review and recommendation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 57.

D. Asst. County Admin.: Console upgrade

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, presented staff recommendations for the EOC Console Upgrade and to utilize the five-year lease option commencing 11/10/2000 for \$111,373.38. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve staff recommendations, subject to the Board Attorney's approval. The Chair opened the floor for public input. Harry Motsinger spoke in favor of the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 58 for copy of memo.

1. Solid Waste RFQ update

Tom Portz reported on the enhanced professional services acquisition committee. The specific task was to move forward on the RFQ for Solid Waste. There were eight responders. The committee has met several times and he is preparing their recommendations to the Board. Based on the significance of the long term effect on the county, this week he will be delivering a copy of the RFQ and each of the responses to the Commissioners, so they may study the proposal and become more knowledgeable. With the Chairman's permission, he will be bringing the committee recommendations next Tuesday for discussion purposes at a workshop and then schedule a time for formal action to short-list the qualified firms. The next step will be to go to an invitation to bid document. Once the firms are short-listed, then the consideration becomes a price issue only. The committee has recommended that only four of the responders be allowed to submit a bid. Commissioner Gose stated concerns that bidders might try to undercut on the price and then come back and raise the price. Commissioner Maxcy questioned why all eight responders will not be able to bid. Staff advised that four of the eight did not meet the criteria established. Commissioner Bullard asked that the Board not be locked in on a price only consideration with the second process.

E. Board Attorney: Danmark Superfund Site agreement

Ross Macbeth presented the Ninth Status Report from Coll Davidson Smith Salter & Barkett, P.A. and the proposed agreement for recovery of past response cost that was prepared by the Department of

Environmental Protection Agency. He requested approval of the Agreement for Recovery of Past Response Costs and payment of the invoice for Group Member Settlement.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve execution of the agreement and payment of invoice to Coll Davidson Smith Salter & Barkett, P.A. in the amount of \$14,228 for settlement and budget amendment if needed. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Danmark Superfund file.

1. Notice of Nuisance Abatement Lien

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to authorize the Chairman to sign the Satisfaction of Lien for Joey Roberts, as recorded in O. R. Book 1488, Page 88 of the records of Highlands County in the amount of \$2,000, and interest. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

Break 11:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

F. County Administrator:

1. Recommendation to terminate bus parking agreement

The County Administrator presented recommendations to approve the option of terminating the 1995 Bus Parking Agreement with the School Board. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to issue a 90-day notice to the Highlands County School Board, that as of May 1, 2000, the Bus Parking Use Agreement approved on February 21, 1995, is terminated. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 59.

2. Approval and appointment of Census 2000 Complete Count Committee

Carl Cool presented recommendations for the formation of a committee to undertake a promotional campaign to inform all residents of the importance of being counted.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve recommendation and appoint the listed individuals to serve on the Census 2000 Complete Count Committee. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 60 for copy of appointments.

3. Report on natural gas pipeline meetings

The County Administrator presented a report on the two pipeline meetings. The citizens that spoke from Highlands County were asking the FERC to consider an alternate route to follow a northerly course along the Polk County line and east of Avon Park, then head south and out to the eastern portion of Highlands County. There were 11 speakers and they were generally in agreement that it would be a better route. The FERC pointed out that it was their obligation to submit a proposed alternate route. Gulfstream is not obligated to address the alternate route. The final route selection will be made by the FERC. The FERC asked that any written comments should be presented to them by January 21st. Commissioner Stokes suggested that the Board recommend that they use state lands first. Mr. Cool stated that Gulfstream is trying to avoid using state lands as permits are harder to obtain. The Board discussed the proposed

alternate route. The other route calls for the line to come in at U.S. 27, west of Billy Martin Road, go under Lake Lela, also known as Gator Lake, and then follow the railroad tracks. Carl Cool stated that the FERC will make the final decision on the route. Commissioner Maxcy asked for a letter of endorsement from the board that Gulfstream use state lands or federal lands and right of ways. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to send a letter of endorsement to the FERC asking that Gulfstream use state lands or federal lands and right of ways, whenever possible and copy the letter to Gulfstream. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Von Whitesides spoke in favor of the Gas Pipeline. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 61 for copy of appointments.

4. Suggested policy on mid-year Capital Improvement requests

As requested by the Board, the County Administrator presented suggestions on a draft policy for mid-year CIP requests. Commissioner Bullard presented suggested changes to the policy as listed:

- To also include noncapital improvement requests.
- The agency making the request, submit a budget, detailing all income and expenditures for the projected project.
- Proposed expenditures must be reviewed by the office of management and budget and any appropriate advisory board or committee.
- Agency making the request must demonstrate that they are an established organization, appropriate, and eligible for the expenditure of public funds.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt policy as presented by the County Administrator with the items added to the list by Commissioner Bullard. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 62 for copy of policy.

5. Consent Agenda items 8-9-10-Street name requests

Commissioner Bullard asked if request for street name changes have been approved by the 911 process and appropriate notifications been given to the effected residents. Mr. Cool advised that it was approved by the 911 office. Ben Henley of the 911 office, advised that there are no structures on the effected streets. The requests were placed back on the Consent Agenda for approval.

6. Consent Agenda item #13-budget amendment-99-00-89

Commissioner Bullard requested clarification on the budget amendment regarding funding to the Art League. Rick Helms, Budget Officer, reported that the budget amendment deals strictly with prior years' collections and does not include any collections that happened during this fiscal year. The Budget Office has prepared to set aside any revenue that is collected this year for the Art League. The item was placed back on the Consent Agenda for approval.

B. County Engineer: Request for approval of amended County-maintained road maps

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve request of the County Engineer to record the amended county maintained road map. The County Engineer reported that the road

map will be available to the public by February 1st at the cost of \$15.00. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 63.

G. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the Consent Agenda as listed:

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills**

Law Library	154.12
General	943,358.58
County Transportation Trust	68,931.50
E911 Operations	19,712.77
Conservation Trust	18,690.00
Intergovt Radio Communication	700.00
Local Government Infrastructure	526,305.83
Community Development Block	52,321.98
Affordable Housing Assistance	26,077.75
Special Law Enforcement	308.39
Sold Waste	105,898.22
Placid Utilities	19,966.45
Highway Park Utility	1,314.79
Risk Retention Fund	38,278.46
Employee Benefit	127,850.48
Highlands Hosp. Pass Thru	30,000.00
2. **Approval of minutes of 12-21-99, 12-28-99 and 1-4-00 meetings**
3. **Accept into record - December Monthly Report**
4. **Approval to adopt resolution declaring local state of emergency. See Res. Book 13 Page 76.**
5. **Approval of agreements for construction of SW Vista Drive extension. See SMB 36 Page 64.**
6. **Approval of agreement with Model Airplane Club for Avon Park landfill site. See SMB 36 Page 65.**
7. **Approval of change order to EOC construction contract.**
8. **Approval of street name change from Consolidated Court to Somerset Court. See SMB 36 Page 66.**
9. **Approval of street name change from Consolidated Blvd. to Somerset Lane. See SMB 36 Page 67.**
10. **Approval of street name change from Poplar Ave. to Lake June Road. See SMB 36 Page 68.**
11. **Approval of EMS Rural Matching Grant. See EMS file for copy.**
12. **Approval of change order for courthouse pressure cleaning in the amount of \$2,726.92. See SMB 36 Page 69.**
13. **Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-78 (SHOCAP Grant)**

- and 99-00-89(Florida Arts License Plate funds). See Res. Book 13 Page 77.
- 14. Approval to reappoint Placid Utilities Advisory Committee members (John Delaney, Treasa Orlandini, Mary Darbro, and alternates Ralph Miner and Willam Ruge). See SMB 36 Page 70.
- 15. Approval of contract with Brock Excavation for Vantage Point and Thunderbird Stormwater Drainage System in the amount of \$285,000. See SMB 36 Page 71.
- 16. Approval to trade in RB 193, Ford F150 vehicle to proceed with the purchase process. See SMB 36 Page 72.
- 17. Approval of change order #1 to E.O. Koch Construction for the Sebring International Raceway Hotel project for the material acceptance testing required on the contract, utilizing the services of Florida Testing & Environmental, Inc. in the amount of \$22,528.00. See SMB 36 Page 73.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

No requests presented.

6. COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Bullard commended Lisa Burly on the Highlands County Calendar project..
- Commissioner Stokes asked everyone to remember the Heritage Festival at the Pearce Homestead next Saturday, January 22, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.
- Commissioner Gose recommended the Board begin negotiations with the Water Management District for acquiring the 600 acres at the Edna Pearce Lockett Estate. Commissioner Stokes stated that he will be bringing options to the Board for discussion after the festival is over. Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor of the purchase, and donation of the property from the Water Management District.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, FEBRUARY 1, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers
C. Guy Maxcy
Edgar E Stokes
Bob Bullard
James L. Gose

Mike Eastman
Carl Cool
J Ross Macbeth
Louise Graham

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by L.E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts with special remembrance for the families of the plane crash victims. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending February 1, 2000.

- B. **Clerk**

1. **Y2K Presentation**

L.E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts, introduced Jerome Kaszubowski, Director of the Clerk's Data Processing Department. Jerome presented a summary of the Y2K upgrades to the computer system. He commended staff for their work and reported that no Y2K problems were encountered on January 1, 2000. The Clerk thanked Commissioner Bob Bullard, Chair of the Y2K Committee, for his devotion to the project and credited him for much of the success.

2. **Disbursement of Employee Benefit Checks**

C. Michael Eastman presented a request to approve an action agenda item each Tuesday to enable the Board to approve payments of all duly authorized employee benefits. If staff could issue payments weekly, instead of on the first and third Tuesdays, it would help improve the timeliness of these payments. In months that have five Tuesdays, with no meetings on the fifth Tuesday, staff would ask approval of the fourth and fifth weeks' disbursement on the fourth Tuesday.

The Board gave a consensus to approve the recommendations of the Clerks' Accounting and Finance Director. The Chair asked that the County Administrator follow up with this request.

3. **Request for Proposals-banking services**

C. Michael Eastman presented a recommendation to issue a Request for Proposal to provide banking services for the Board of County Commissioners. The County has been with Barnett/NationsBank for approximately ten years. The objective is to obtain the highest quality service at the best cost to the taxpayers, and to maximize earnings on public funds deposited locally. He recommended that the Board appoint a Selection Committee for this process. This request to be placed under the County Administrator as Item G. 5.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. The Chair advised that a workshop scheduled for April 11th will be devoted to a discussion on the *second homestead exemption*. The workshop will be held with the Property Appraiser and the Budget Director to make a determination on the issue. He encouraged citizens to place their recommendation in letter form and send to the County Commissioners. He also asked that

the newspapers consider a poll to have residents contact them with their opinions. *The Chair also recognized Sun'n Lakes Fire District with a plaque received in honor of their efforts toward the Muscular Dystrophy drive. Commissioner Maxcy introduced Jeanette Wilk, as the new aide to House of Representative, Joe Spratt.* Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action Agenda as amended:

- < Consent Agenda item number H. 3, to be placed under the County Administrator
- < Discussion on Consent Agenda Item number 7 at the request of Richard Conover, to be placed under the County Administrator.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Public hearing to consider purchase of land and building for Building Operations

Proof of Publication entered into the record by Bill Stephenson, Special Projects Coordinator. See SMB 36 Page 86. Mr. Stephenson advised that this property is currently being leased from John and Barbara Martz and being utilized by the Building Operations Department. The cost of leasing the property is \$10,000 per year for the next eight years, for a total of \$80,000. We can purchase the property at this time for \$100,000. Staff is recommending that the Board purchase the building and the three lots. Tom Portz stated that we have located some records storage for the Property Appraiser, in addition to Building Operations. Commissioner Maxcy asked if an appraisal was done on the property. Mr. Stephenson reported that he did not have an appraisal done, as he was trying to save the county money. He is also negotiating for an additional parcel for \$23,000, that will give the county more lots and house records retention and Building Operations. The Chair stated concerns for paying more than the appraised value of the property. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the purchase of the property with an exemption from the appraisal requirement. The Chair opened the floor. Richard Conover commented on the county purchasing more land. Carl Cool and Tom Portz spoke in favor of the purchase. Commissioner Bullard questioned where the funds will come from. The County Administrator advised that it will come out of the Capital Improvement Plan. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Flowers, who voted nay. Motion carried.

B. Public hearing to consider purchase of land for Sebring Parkway Phase III

Proof of Publication and Petition presented by Bill Stephenson. See SMB 36 Page 87. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve Land Purchase Agreement with Ben Hill Griffin, Inc. for property described as the North boundary of Section 7, Township 33 South, Range 39 East, for the construction of the Sebring Parkway in the amount of \$65,000. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Special Projects Director: Request to renew lease to Sebring Jaycees

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve request of Bill Stephenson, Special Projects Director, to renew the lease with the Sebring Jaycees Charities, Inc. for property located at 2606 State Road 17 South, Avon Park. Commissioner Stokes recommended that the Board require a terminating clause in case the Board needs the property. The Board Attorney was instructed to prepare a new lease to include this clause and insurance requirements. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 88.

D. Emergency Operations Director: Recommendation from County Fire Service Task Force

Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, presented recommendations from the County Fire Services Task Force to support the consolidation of the fire departments. The Chair reported that there were two motions that came out of the meeting. The first was to recommend the final payment on the feasibility study to MGT of

America. The second was to approve the Countywide Fire Department, and to accept the study as a guideline and, to proceed. Commissioner Maxcy asked the Chair to define the next step. The Chairman advised that in order to establish the Countywide Fire Department, we can either make that decision by the Board or send it to the voters of Highlands County. After it is established, the Board will set public hearings to determine the rates of the structure. Commissioner Maxcy and Flowers spoke in favor of going to a referendum. Ross Macbeth advised that we cannot tell what the assessments will be until we know what the services will be. We may start with the studies in the opening process, then look at training and location of facilities and equipment.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to accept the report as complete and release final payment to MGT of America. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to endorse the concept of consolidation of the Volunteer Fire Departments and authorize staff and the Task Force to proceed with an implementation study, with the scope not to include the cities of Avon Park, Sebring, and EMS, at this time. Commissioner Bullard recommended implementing the portions of the plan that has been outlined, and does not involve cost. Clayton Womer spoke in favor and encouraged the Board to launch an educational program to inform the citizens. John Williams spoke in favor of the motion. Tom Seigfried, representing MGT, stated that the motion is appropriate and he would recommend the adoption of the concept of going to Countywide Fire Department, and giving the authority to the Emergency Operations Director to implement those things that he can, and use the Task Force to create an implementation plan for the Board to look at and take action. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

Break - 10:40 10:50 a.m.

E. Asst. County Admin.: Solid Waste short list, RFQ 00-011

Tom Portz presented four qualified firms that were selected by the committee to go to bid. Four firms were also identified as not qualified or not responsive. Additional information was received from Superior Waste. It was his recommendation that the information is still deficient in two categories, and his initial recommendation still stands. The next step will be to complete the *Invitation to Bid document*, and present to the Board for approval. Once it is approved, it will be given to the short list candidates for their bids. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to accept the committee recommendations on the short list for RFQ 00-011 on the listed firms:

<u>Reliable Sanitation, Inc.</u>
<u>Florida Recycling Services, Inc.</u>
<u>Liberty Waste, Inc.</u>
<u>Waste Management, Inc.</u>

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

F. Board Attorney

No report presented.

G. County Administrator:

1. Budget amendment 99-00-107 for Superfund settlement

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendment 99-00-107, to cover unanticipated costs for the Danmark Superfund Site Settlement. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Humane Society request

Carl Cool presented request from the Humane Society for assistance in improving the site on Airport Road. Bruce Van Jaarsveld, Road and Bridge Superintendent, presented a cost estimate for the construction of the driveway into the Humane Society. The total estimated cost was listed at \$19,297. Mr. Cool recommended that the Board approve as a work-in project, as the Road and Bridge Superintendent does not have the available time at the present. Commissioner Flowers asked if the Board employees would consider volunteering their time on the weekend for this project. Carl Cool stated that he believed that the employees would be willing to volunteer their time if asked. Tom Portz added a word of caution as it could be in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve County labor and equipment to be used to improve the Humane Society site, so long as other deadlines are not missed. John Williams spoke in favor of the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 89.

3. Proclamation: Juvenile Justice Week

The County Administrator read the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Proclamation proclaiming March 19 to 24, 2000 as *Juvenile Justice Week* in Highlands County and to make a conscious effort to support programs for prevention of juvenile delinquency. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 84.

4. Recommendation on Sebring CRA S. Commerce Ave. project

Carl Cool presented cost estimates from Keith & Schnars and the County Engineer on proposed improvements to the portion of Commerce Avenue in front of the Courthouse. The CRA is requesting the Board pay \$26,974.80 for widening of the road to prevent the loss of parking spaces. The Commissioners discussed the proposal. Commissioner Gose questioned why we should pay for widening of the road. Pete Pollard, executive Director of the CRA, advised that this is a grant-funded project and there are no funds available for the widening. The only other option would be to go with parallel parking, which will impact the number of parking spaces. The Board gave a concurrence to proceed with the Sebring CRA South Commerce Avenue project. Carl Cool reported that when the bids come in, he will come back with a budget amendment for their consideration. See SMB 36 Page 90.

5. Request for Proposals-banking services

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the request to provide banking services and appoint the committee as listed:

Tom Portz, Assistant County Administrator
Rick Helms, Budget Officer
Jed Secory, General Services Director
Bob Jamison, Director of Compliance & Internal Audit
Mike Eastman, Director of Accounting & Finance

The County Administrator thanked the Clerk and staff for the cooperation in working together. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 91.

6. Consent Agenda item H.3-Approval to execute agreement with SFCC, Heartland Workforce Investment Board and Wages Coalition

Commissioner Gose stated a conflict as he is the Director of the Workforce Investment Board and Wages Coalition. A memorandum of voting conflict was entered into the record to become a part of the minutes. See SMB 36 Page 92. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the agreement as the provider for the purpose of providing community work experience for the Wages clients of DeSoto, Hardee, and Highlands counties. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Gose, who abstained. Motion carried.

7. Consent Agenda item H.7-Approval to dispose of vehicles

Richard Conover questioned why certain 1994 vehicles could not be used by other departments that have older vehicles. Carl Cool noted that each of these vehicles was discussed at the budget hearings and the reason they needed to be replaced was a part of the budget request. Jed Secory, General Services Director, stated that the Road & Bridge Shop supervisor presented recommendations that these vehicles need to be traded in, due to maintenance cost and mileage. This item was placed back on the Consent Agenda for approval.

H. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent Agenda as listed.

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills**

Law Library	99.00
General	525,351.46
County Transportation Trust	80,088.14
E911 Operations	120.17
Intergovt Radio Communication	501.23
Conservation Trust	138,479.25
Community Development Block	8.74
Affordable Housing Assistance	7,280.44
Sold Waste	114,574.01
Placid Utilities	3,824.62
Highway Park Utility	1,797.88
Risk Retention Fund	2,549.22
Employee Benefit	213,217.45
2. **Approval of minutes of 1-18-00**
3. **Approval to execute agreement with SFCC for Heartland Workforce Investment Board and Wages Coalition.**
4. **Approval of budget amendments 99-00-91(correct deficiency in overtime for mowing crews) and 99-00-105 (Sebring Public Library-overtime).**
5. **Approval of budget amendment and resolution 99-00-108 (West Hydro Tank replacement with LaGrow Systems). See Res. Book 13 Page 85.**
6. **Approval to execute contract with Highlands Art League, Inc.**
7. **Approval to dispose of vehicles. See SMB 36 Page 93.**
8. **Approval of plat recording, Chambers Subdivision, Robert H. & Garland Barringer. See SMB 36 Page 94.**

- 9. Approval of resolution to set public hearing date for February 22, 2000 for road closing for petitioner, Jere D. Creed. See Res. Book 13 Page 86.
- 10. Approval of PBS&J Task Order no. 3 to conduct a winter season waste composition analysis for compliance with DEP Recycling Program. See SMB 36 Page 95.
- 11. Appointment of William D. Johnson to Construction Licensing, Enforcement and Appeals Board, and reappointment of Keith Renish and Andrew Kaltz. See SMB 36 Page 96.
- 12. Appointments of Mrs. Julie Tubbs as primary member and Mr. Mike Baucham, as alternate member to Insurance Committee. See SMB 36 Page 97.
- 13. Approval of SHIP Satisfaction of Mortgage - Donald Young. See SMB 36 Page 98.
- 14. Approval of change order in the amount of \$1,136.96 to F.A. Detwiler & Assoc. for Courthouse window renovation. See SMB 36 Page 99.
- 15. Approval of recommendation from Building Use Committee to allow the Lorida Community Club to continue booking the school house for one year. See SMB 36 Page 100.
- 16. Approval of Interlocal agreement with the City of Sebring for Shuffleboard covers for the Sebring Recreation Club.
- 17. Approval to execute resolution declaring local state of emergency. See Res. Book 13 Page 87.
- 18. Approval of Declaration of Closure for Avon Park and DeSoto City landfills and authorize the Department of Solid Waste to file for a Closure Permit Variance by rule with DEP to establish the official date of closure for both facilities retroactively. See SMB 36 Page 101.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

- , John Williams apologized for his *out of order* statement at last week's meeting. He also reported on the NRAC and Sub-Committee meetings.
- , Richard Conover spoke regarding upcoming events that are not listed on the Agenda.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard requested available office space from the Planning Department to further coordinate efforts of the Census Committee. Motion by commission Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to allow the Census Bureau to use the vacant office with a telephone line.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest:

Clerk

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD, FEBRUARY 8, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The County Administrator presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **Workshop on County Administrator evaluation form**

Commissioner Bullard reviewed the new County Administrator evaluation form with the other Commissioners. He drafted the new evaluation form to better identify with that position. The County Administrator stated that he was in agreement that the form was more appropriate. The consensus of the Board was to place the item on the agenda next week for action. See SMB 36 Page 102 for copy.

5. **Workshop on Construction/ Demolition Landfill ordinance**

The Chair reported that this workshop is a continuation of the workshop held in November with the same concerns. Carl Cool presented a background discussion of the proposed ordinance. The current status of the ordinance is that no private C&D landfills are allowed in the county, primarily because of the zoning rules and regulations. The current zoning allows vegetative landfills and concrete in earth type rubble landfills in AG and I-2 classifications. No private entity can build a C&D landfill in Highlands County. Zoning precludes them from that action. The Board directed staff to develop a set of regulations that deal with private landfills. Mr. Cool reviewed the requirements of the proposed ordinance to construct a private C&D landfill. Natural vegetative material landfills and other landfills must also satisfy certain requirements as designated. Ross Macbeth advised that this ordinance was drafted from the Orange County ordinance. The primary exception is that the rules also apply to Class I, II, and III landfills in that county. They were deleted from our County ordinance, because they were owned and operated by Highlands County in the past. The Board may want to tighten up regulations that apply to waste oil facilities.

Ross Macbeth reviewed suggested changes that apply to all types of landfills. Commissioner Bullard reviewed specific changes to the proposed ordinance. Refer to tape for detail. He wondered why the

Board was debating the issue, since current regulations prohibit private construction and demolition facilities. He stated that we are going from a system with no controls to a system with 30 pages of controls. He spoke in favor of going to a five-year permit, the same as the state. Ross Macbeth stated that certain changes can be made to the ordinance with requirements for quarterly reports that will give the Board an idea on space left at the landfill, limiting the vendor to one fifth of the capacity annually, if we chose to go with the five-year permit. These controls would also restrict the amount of garbage coming from out of the county. Commissioner Maxcy questioned whether a bankruptcy judge has to abide by this ordinance. Ross Macbeth stated that he does. The bankruptcy judge does not overrule local rules and regulations in the solid waste area. The companies that are operating still have to comply with local ordinances. Commissioner Bullard stated concern that the whole thing is based on the premise that no one gets a permit unless they can prove there is more capacity needed. County staff has already determined that the county landfill will have room for C&D materials for the next 40 years. Ross Macbeth stated that staff has developed a very restrictive ordinance. If the Board chooses not to adopt the ordinance, other changes can make it less restrictive. Commissioner Gose spoke in favor of leaving the ordinance the way it is. He is not in favor of private C&D landfills. If the Board wishes to adopt the ordinance with the restrictions that will be fine, as long as the restrictions are in place. He would have no problem placing C&D with Class I, II, and III landfills. Regarding permits, he would like to leave the C&D with one year permit and all others with a five-year permit. Commissioner Stokes suggested that we continue to look at the ordinance. He and Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor of transfer stations in Highlands County.

Break 11:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

Public input was received from the following citizens:

- < Gail Strom, owner of the private C&D facility on Airport Road stated they have been shut down by the county. The current landfill ordinance is preventing them from making a living. The county has taken away their ability to do anything with their property, and severely damaged their income. Mrs. Strom asked the Board to please rule on their situation on an individual basis.
- < Jim Penrod, Lake Placid, spoke in opposition to private landfills.
- < Gabriel Read urged the Commission to restrict landfills to county ownership.
- < Mike Carr spoke in opposition to the ordinance and in favor of private enterprise.
- < Wendell Whitehouse, representing Don and Gail Strom, objected to the county operating the only C&D landfill. He stated that illegal dumping is increasing. He feels that the ordinance is unconstitutional and the Board should continue working on an ordinance that is acceptable.

Staff was directed to bring back information concerning multi use transfer stations in two or three locations around the county. Residents could bring a variety of C&D materials to a station. The materials then would be taken to the County's Arbuckle Creek landfill.

The Chair asked the Attorney and staff to work with the Stroms for any type of solution that will benefit them such as a special exception. Ross Macbeth advised that they are in the same position as any other start-up operation, because the special exception that they have been operating under is lost. They do not have a special exception, as the special exception was lost after they sold the property. A hearing was held

and the Board of Adjustments upheld the determination. There is nothing to grandfather in, as it is not a permitted use any longer. Commissioner Flowers asked that staff sit down and talk with the Stroms to see if we can come up with some type of solution. Commissioner Bullard asked the attorney to draft an ordinance that places C&D landfills in with Class I, II, and III, county operated landfills, and then draft ordinances with specific regulations for the other categories. See Landfill file for copy of proposed ordinance with changes.

Closed workshop at 12:03 p.m.

6. ACTION:

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve payment of employee benefits in the amount of \$52, 871.78. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval to declare local state of emergency

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to extend the local state of emergency. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 88.

C. Invitation to bid-draft-Franchise Solid Waste Collection Services

The County Administrator requested the Board to review the Invitation to Bid draft, and if there are any changes, get with staff. The Commission will discuss the bids and consider adoption at next Tuesday's meeting.

D. Fred Fox - payment-Sebring Airport Authority Hotel

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to waive the agenda to hear the request for payment to Koch Construction. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. Mike Eastman presented a request for payment of an invoice from Koch Construction for the Sebring Airport Authority Hotel project in the amount of \$72,267.45. Commissioner Maxcy noted a conflict, as Koch Construction is a client of his corporation. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard to approve payment. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Maxcy who abstained, and entered into the record a memorandum of voting conflict, to become a part of the minutes. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 103.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest:

Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, FEBRUARY 15, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers

C. Guy Maxcy

Edgar E Stokes

Bob Bullard

James L. Gose

Mike Eastman

Carl Cool

J Ross Macbeth

Louise Graham

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Edgar Stokes. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending February 15, 2000. The Farm Report was also given.

- B. Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. Upcoming County Meetings**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. Mr. Cool also reported that the Highlands County Booth has won a blue ribbon at the State Fair for the fourth year in a row.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to set the Action Agenda as amended and presented:

- Remove Consent Agenda items number 14 & 15 and place under the County Administrator.
- Item L. 2, Budget amendment 99-00-129, add the consultant service authorization with Chastain-Skillman
- Delete item M. 7 from the Consent Agenda

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

- A. Kurt Olsen: Presentation of check for AP Bombing Range timber sales**

Kurt Olsen, representing the Avon Park Air Force Base, presented a check in the amount of \$52,776.00 or 51% of the distribution of timber sales at the Avon Park Bombing Range.

- B. Marcellus Mason: Unemployment claim**

Marcellus Mason appeared before the Board regarding Character problems with the County Administrator. He stated that the unemployment claim has been resolved. No action was taken. See SMB 36 Page 104.

- C. Public hearing to consider Land and Water Conservation Fund grant**

Proof of Publication entered into the record. See SMB 36 Page 105. Vicki Pontius, Operations Manager, presented request for submittal of an LWCF grant application to fund 50% of the cost of purchasing two lots adjacent to Boggy Branch boat ramp to enhance the immediate parking needs for public use on Lake Istokpoga. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve request for the pursuit of the grant for the lot purchase. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

- D. Operations Manager: Request revision of capital improvements**

Vicki Pontius, Operations Manager, submitted request of Teresa Williams and Ms. McGahee, representing the Highway Park community, for a revision of the Parks and Recreation account to purchase playground equipment, in lieu of the irrigation system. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the purchase of the playground equipment in lieu of the budgeted irrigation system for the Highway Park Community. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ray Napper spoke regarding the irrigation system. Commissioner Bullard noted that the field is still playable, but the irrigation system will make a better field. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 106.

E. Consideration to purchase an option for shell pit addition-Julian Wright

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented a copy of a proposed 18-month option to allow the County to seek shell pit permits next to the existing 80 acre shell pit. Mr. Cool also explained that there is a 10-acre piece out of the 103 acres that Mr. Wright does not own. The Board Attorney advised that he will draft specific language that all mortgages will be clear at the time of closing. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the shell pit addition. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the purchase of the proposed option on the 103.2755 acre tract of land described in the option, next to the 80 acres County shell pit. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 107.

F. Approval of franchise Invitation to Bid

Carl Cool, County Administrator, reviewed the Invitation to Bid draft document with amendments as proposed. Specifications for this ITB have been issued to the qualified vendors as listed:

Reliable Sanitation, Inc.

Florida Recycling Services, Inc.

Liberty Waste, Inc.

Waste Management, Inc.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the bid document with changes as noted by the County Administrator. Ross Macbeth noted changes to the document, on Page 3 Of 3 of item number 14, deleting words pursuant to this contract, and adding served by the collector. The Chair opened the floor for public input. Ray Napper spoke regarding lack of proper documentation. Jeff Sabin, Waste Management, requested consideration for an alternative bid to include both districts as an option. He also recommended a day certain for the expiration of all contracts. Commissioner Gose and Jerry Leszkiewicz spoke in favor of keeping the two zones. Commissioner Bullard amended the motion to include a provision that commercial contracts will expire on September 30th, and include the provision that vendors may submit an alternate bid on both districts. Commissioner Maxcy seconded the amendment. Ross Macbeth presented corrected language on page 12, as a new paragraph 15 to be included in the bid document. Existing commercial contracts, as a condition of submitting a bid pursuant to this ITB, all bidders expressly agree that all existing contracts for commercial collection service shall terminate at midnight on September 30, 2000, and that all commercial accounts may be solicited by each collector awarded a franchise contract for the period commencing October 1, 2000. The maker of the motion and maker of the second accepted the corrections as stated. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ray Napper spoke in favor of separate bidders for each service area. Upon roll call, Commissioners Bullard, Maxcy, and Flowers voted aye. Commissioners Gose and Stokes voted nay. Motion carried.

Break 10:40: 10 :55 a.m.

G. Bob Allen: Presentation of master plan for Pearce Homestead

Bob Allen, Chairman of the Florida Heartland Group, stated support for the development of the master plan for Pearce Homestead. Pat and Ray Ashton, Consultants, gave a short presentation on the conceptual plan to develop the 1,000 acre Edna Pearce Lockett estate. The project will be developed in three phases. The first phase is under way and includes restoration of the Lockett residence and outbuildings, most of them historic in nature. Phase I also includes the start of construction of a nature center, one-room schoolhouse museum, and facilities along the Kissimmee River. Phase II calls for finishing construction of the nature center, schoolhouse museum and river facilities, buying the 600 acres and planning construction of the southern satellite of the new state agriculture museum, along with a learning center, an ecolodge and conference center, dude ranch, shops and a thematic restaurant. All of that would be built in Phase III, the most expensive of the three. Commissioner Gose suggested that we sit down with the REDI-Group in a workshop to see where we want the plan to go. The consensus of the Board was to set for a tentative workshop on May 9th at 6:00 p.m. at the Agric-Civic Center.

H. Economic Development Director: Resolution on Rural Infrastructure Fund

Jim Stanfill, Economic Development Director, read the Resolution supporting a Legislative Initiative to provide

a dedicated revenue source for the Rural Infrastructure fund. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution, encouraging the Legislature to identify a revenue source for the fund. The Chair opened the floor to the public. John Williams spoke in favor of impact fees. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 89.

I. EMS Director:

- 1. Termination of EMS billing contract - Sky Asset Management Inc.**
- 2. Approval of new billing contract - Advanced Data Processing**

Rick Weigand, EMS Director, requested the Board terminate the contract for EMS billing and collections' services with MidAm Recovery Services, Inc. which is now Sky Asset Management. He has reviewed this request with the Board Attorney and is in agreement. The vendor is not performing at an acceptable level. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to send Sky Asset written notice that the County is giving 60 days notice to terminate the EMS billing contract and enter into contract with Advanced Data Processing. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

J. Development Director: Administrative fee for Nuisance Abatement

Jim Polatty presented information as to the administrative fee charge to nuisance abatement cases. The Commissioners reviewed existing Nuisance Abatement requirements and advised staff to proceed forward and schedule a date for Public Hearing on the proposed changes that should be addressed. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to instruct staff to amend the ordinance to allow changes to the fee schedule and adopt Resolution reflecting the fee schedules. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 108.

K. Board Attorney: Interlocal Agreement with Sebring Airport Authority

Ross Macbeth reviewed the Interlocal Agreement of Sebring Airport Authority with the Board. The Fire District agrees that it will continue to provide fire services to the Airport property and will maintain appropriate fire fighting equipment at the Airport. All parties agree to cooperate in obtaining grant funding to construct a new fire house facility at the Sebring Airport and Industrial Park. The Board directed staff to check into using one of the donated trucks as a parade truck for the Sebring Fireman Association. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve agreement. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

L. County Administrator:

- 1. Humane Society request to waive tag fees for rabies clinic**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve request to waive tag fees for rabies clinic to be held February 26, 2000 at the Humane Society facility. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 109.

- 2. Budget amendments 99-00-112, 113, 116 and 129**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve budget amendment 99-00-112, to provide the 50% match funding up to \$13,000 for the Sebring Recreation Club shuffleboard court covers, 99-00-113, to provide a barrier for the RCMA Lake Placid, 99-00-116, to pay for unemployment, and 99-00-129, for shell pit acquisition and approval of agreement with Chastain Skillman as consultant, with a correction in the addition. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

- 3. Consent Agenda Item 14 & 15 - Fewell & Winding Waters property**

Carl Cool explained the request from the NRAC to pursue acquisition of both the Fewell and the Winding Waters sites. Staff has reconfirmed NRAC's decision and recommended that we use Conservation Trust Fund monies to pay for consultants, Biological Research Associates, to complete a grant application for a Florida Communities Trust Grant. Commissioner Stokes suggested that the Committees meet and decide what type of plan they have for the property before we hire consultants. Commissioner Bullard advised that both

the committees have seen a combined use for the property, where there is a good blend of preservation and active and passive recreation. John Williams, NRAC, spoke in favor of proceeding with the grant application due to the time schedule. The consensus was to place back on the Consent Agenda to hire the consultants to meet with the committees and structure the grant application. Staff to also check with the City of Sebring for their assistance.

M. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the Consent Agenda as listed:

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits**

Law Library	3,734.32
General	1,804,851.32
County Transportation Trust	37,274.26
E911 Operations	17,287.77
Intergovt Radio Communication	26,750.00
Conservation Trust	42.00
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	383,592.93
Community Development Block	2,250.00
Affordable Housing Assistance	46,538.60
Special Law Enforcement	7,017.56
Solid Waste	97,944.96
Placid Utilities	9,401.92
Highway Park Utility	631.17
Risk Retention Fund	6,501.48
Employee Benefit	135,342.13
2. **Approval of minutes of 1-25-00 and 2-1-00 meetings**
3. **Accept into record - January Monthly Report**
4. **Approval to execute resolution extending local state of emergency. See Res. Book 13 Page 90.**
5. **Approval to execute SCRAP Joint Project Agreements with DOT. See Res. Book 13 Page 91.**
6. **Approval of SHIP mortgage subordination - Driggers. See SMB 36 Page 110.**
7. **Approval to pay invoice to E.O. Koch for Raceway hotel**
8. **Approval of change orders 1 and 2 for Sebring Library expansion. See SMB 36 Page 111.**
9. **Approval to sell tax certificate #96-8170-Mary Frances Hyde. See SMB 36 Page 112.**
10. **Approval to execute FDEP Hazardous Waste Grant #HW443. See SMB 36 Page 113.**
11. **Appointments to Children’s Services Council (Vikki Wainwright). Appoint Doris Gentry and Leo Rosenblum as honorary members. See SMB 36 Page 114.**
12. **Approval of budget amendments 99-00-117 (Sebring Library Expansion) 99-00-121(Highway Safety office fiber optics) 99-00-122 (Engineering Dept. overtime).**
13. **Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-111(lease for the new dispatch console at the EOC) 99-00-125(Local Mitigation Disaster) and 99-00-127(Right-of-way funding Sebring Parkway Phase III). See Res. Book 13 Page 92.**

- 14. **Approval to hire grant consultants, Biological Research Associates, for acquisition of Fewell property.**
- 15. **Approval to hire grant consultants, Biological Research Associates, for acquisition of Winding Waters property.**
- 16. **Approval of Recycling and Education Grant proposed budget. See SMB 36 Page 115.**
- 17. **Approval of County Administrator Evaluation Form. See SMB 36 Page 116.**
- 18. **Appointment of John Shoop to fill the vacancy of Jim Crawford and reappointment of Lee Shafer and Jeff Mechlin to the Industrial Development Authority. See SMB 36 Page 117.**
- 19. **Approval to execute Disaster Relief Funding Agreement. See SMB 36 Page 117.**

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

John T. Williams requested that Vicki Pointus be allowed to participate in the RPAC and NRAC Sub Committee meetings with input from her department and also to be responsible for taking minutes. He asked that the County Administrator follow through with recommendation. Mr. Williams also presented recommendation of the NRAC asking the Board of County Commissioners to consider adopting a comprehensive schedule of impact fees to help pay for the future development of Highlands County. No action was taken.

6. COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Bullard commended Commissioner Stokes and the persons who assisted him with the Heartland Festival at Edna Pearce Lockett Estate.
- Commissioner Gose thanked the participants at the County Fair.
- Commissioner Maxcy spoke regarding Homestead Exemption impact.
- Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor of a Water Authority Board.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, MARCH 7, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by L.E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending March 7, 2000.

- B. **Clerk**

L.E. "Luke" Brooker reported on the Window Restoration project at the Courthouse and thanked the Board for their efforts toward the restoration. The Clerk also presented an update on the Teen Court. The Teen Court is now in its fourth year. There are four sessions left in this year, with 51 participants and no reoffenders. Volunteers have increased each year, beginning with 135, four years ago, and now at 200. The court allows children that are not in trouble to be a part of the Judicial System, letting them act as participants of the court, with the exception of the Judge. Two local attorneys, Janette Branham and Linda Rodriguez Torrent, have been with the program, since its inception. The Juvenile Judge, David Langford, has acted as the judge since its inception. Many other attorneys and judges have offered their services with Teen Court. The next session will be March 27, 2000. The final session will be held May 8, 2000.

- C. **Upcoming County Meetings**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. Mr. Cool read a letter into the record commending Ron Davis from Animal Control. Mike Eastman reported on a Banking Services RFP Committee meeting to be held March 8, 2000, at 1:30 p.m. in the Clerk's Finance Conference Room.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action Agenda as amended and presented:

- Add approval to waive Landfill Tipping Fee from the City of Sebring under the County Administrator.
- Add a letter from Attorney Mike Swaine, representing Reliable Sanitation, Inc., under the County Administrator.
- Delete from the Consent Agenda Items, 9, 17, & 18, and place under the County Administrator.
- Add Claims Appeal - Gilberto Rivera under the County Administrator.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Resolution: "Buckle Up Florida"

The Chairman read the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution encouraging the Florida Legislature to adopt a primary enforcement provision to the state's Safety Belt Use Law. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 124.

B. Dr. Calvin Smith, School Board: Sun'n Lake Elementary traffic

Dr. Smith appeared before the Board with a request to seek a joint cooperative effort between the Board of County Commissioners and the School Board to build an entry road and additional parking at Sun'n Lakes Elementary School. The cooperative effort will provide that the School Board furnish the road materials and the County provide the labor and equipment. Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented a cost estimate for roadway improvements that included a modified entrance, turn lanes and parking lot improvements. The County Administrator recommended that the Road and Bridge Superintendent, Bruce Van Jaarsveld, be given the latitude to complete the project according to his schedule, as he will be busy with the Sebring Parkway project. John Nagley, representing Florida Hospital, spoke in support of the project. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the project, as requested with the Road and Bridge Supervisor determining the schedule. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 125.

C. Marcellus Mason: Attorney fees and judgements

Mr. Mason did not appear before the Board. See SMB 36 Page 126 for copy of request.

D. Mike Carter, Dorrell & Hancock: Audit

Mike Carter, representing, Dorrell & Hancock, presented an overview of the Management Letter for the audited financial statements of the Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999. Status of prior year findings included conditions with the Emergency Medical Services, State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) Program, Fixed Assets, and Contracts and Grants. The auditors concurred with staff to go with the new vendor for EMS, place in effect systems to reconcile the billings that we send to them to the bills that they actually send out, based on their reports, and to the cash receipts that they record. Also, recommend a tracking system be developed with the Board and Clerk, for grants and contracts.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to accept the Management Letter and responses into the record. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Audit file for copy.

E. Building Official: Request from Construction Licensing, Enforcement and Appeals Board

Sol Y. Moseley, Building Official, presented a request from the Construction Licensing, Enforcement, and Appeals Board, to rescind Ordinance 99-25 (Handyman). Commission Maxcy asked if any new evidence was presented to them that would cause the Board to abandon the ordinance. Mr. Moseley stated that the Construction Board felt that none of their ideas were incorporated into the ordinance. They also objected to the ordinance allowing unlicensed people to perform *trade specific work*. Commissioner Bullard stated concerns that the Construction Licensing Board has not given the ordinance a chance to work. The Board discussed the request and gave Commissioner Bullard a consensus to go to the next Construction Licensing meeting and answer any concerns that they may have. The Commission also requested that the Board Attorney attend the meeting. No action was taken by the Commission to rescind the ordinance at this time. See SMB 36 Page 127 for copy of minutes

F. County Engineer:

1. SW Vista Drive extension - agreement and deed recording

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented an agreement and deed recording for the SW Vista Drive

extension. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida - DEP Easement was previously approved by the Board on December 21, 1999. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Florida Hospital agreement for the construction of SW Vista Drive Extension and the recording of all easements and quit claim deeds needed for the construction. The County Engineer mentioned that in the future, he will come back before the Board for approval of a budget amendment for the continued construction of the parking spaces not to exceed \$25,200. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 128 for copy of information.

2. Vantage Pointe drainage project - addendum #2

The County Engineer presented addendum number two, Chastain Skillman, Inc. contract, for the Vantage Pointe Drainage Project in the amount of \$4,760.00. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve addendum number 2 in the amount of \$4,760.00 for testing during construction operations at the Vantage Pointe Drainage project. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 129.

3. Signalization of Sebring Parkway - addendum #1

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve addendum number one, Chastain Skillman, Inc. for the signal modifications at SR 17, and Shontee Avenue, of Sebring Parkway in the amount, of \$5,050.00. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 130.

4. Appointment to Water Advisory Committee

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented recommendations of the Water Advisory Committee to appoint Bruce Burley, Aquatic Technician, to the Water Advisory Committee. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to appoint Bruce Burley to the Water Advisory Committee. Commissioner Stokes discussed the possibility of a conflict as he is a county employee. Ramon advised that he has discussed the issue with Mr. Burley, and he understands that once he becomes a member of the Committee he will not be able to discuss issues with other members, unless it is in a posted meeting. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 131.

G. Development Director:

1. Wolf Creek Partners' request for letter to DCA

Jim Polatty, Development Director, advised that the Wolf Creek Partners, as part of the process to develop Osprey Lakes, has requested a Binding Letter of Interpretation of Development of Regional Impact Status (BLID) from the State of Florida Department of Community Affairs. The County Administrator has suggested that the County Commission be given an opportunity to provide input to the DCA. He recommended that the Board send a Resolution asking that both developments be considered as one development in consideration of a DRI. A memo was provided from the Planning Department outlining input from the Commission. Ross Macbeth suggested that traffic concerns should be mentioned. Commissioner Bullard stated concerns that we are being over cautious and could cause delay with the project. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to send a resolution advising that the two projects are closely linked together and that be a consideration in the review. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Gabriel Read spoke regarding the impact of these two developments to the community. He felt that county staff should be the one

that enforces the requirements, not the state. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Wolf Creek file for copy of information.

Break - 10:35-10:47 a.m.

2. Development impact fees - recommendation from Natural Resources Advisory Commission

Jim Polatty discussed the recommendation of the NRAC asking the Board of County Commissioners to consider adopting a comprehensive schedule of impact fees to help pay for the future development of Highlands County. He stated that staff has conducted a canvas of surrounding local counties and counties of comparable size do not impose impact fees. The more urbanized counties were also examined. Carl Cool spoke in opposition to impact fees. Tom Portz recommended that we turn our attention toward other revenue sources, rather than impact fees. Ross Macbeth stated that this is a vital issue and should be addressed. The consensus of the Board was to set this item for a June workshop. See Impact Fees file for copy of information.

H. 911 Program Coordinator: Street name change

Ben Henley, 911 Coordinator, presented a request for a road name change from Lemon Patch Road to Dawg House Drive. Residents now residing on the road are in opposition to the request. Scott Hoffner and Judy Hoffner addressed the Board, stating that there are actually two roads. One is named Lemon Patch and the other is Phelps Lane. Mr. Hoffner would like to change the name to promote his kennel business, and give clarification to the address. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the street name change to Dawg House Drive. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Richard Beckwith, neighbor on the road, spoke in opposition to the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Maxcy, who voted nay. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 132.

I. Emergency Operations Director: Utility easement for Emergency Operations Center

Tom Portz presented a request for Tim Eures to approve utility easements at the new Emergency Operations Center site for Florida Power to provide power to the building. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve easement for recording with the Clerk of Courts. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 133.

J. Board Attorney: Proposed agreement on moving ACL Depot

Mr. Macbeth reviewed the proposed agreement between the City of Sebring and the ACL Station Museum, Inc. for the removal of the building in order to construct the Sebring Parkway. The City and the County by execution of the Agreement transfer to the Corporation the old train depot building, presently located within the proposed right-of-way of the Sebring Parkway at the corner of North Ridgewood Drive and Eucalyptus Street, subject to the condition that ownership of that building will revert to the City. The City and the County agree to a maximum participation in the project in the amount of \$30,000 each. The Corporation shall furnish all services required to complete the project. Ross Macbeth reviewed proposed changes to the document. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve agreement as amended. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ray Napper asked the Board to table this item and allow the building department to come forth with information on the stability of the building. Carl Cool noted that this would be under the City's review, as the County is giving ownership to the City. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 134.

K. County Administrator:

1. Budget amendments 99-00-131 and 135

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve budget amendments 99-00-131, to relocate water line to bridge on CR-17(Town of Lake Placid), to correct cost center as per Clerk's accounting department. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendment 99-00-135 for appeal transcripts on indigent appeals. Commissioner Gose questioned the amount of increase to the budget. Nick Sudzina, Courts Administrator, did not have an answer to the increase. The County Administrator agreed to get an explanation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye.

2. Recommendation on court-requested Judicial Assistant

The County Administrator reported back on staff direction to relook at service filing fees in other counties to bring back a plan for funding the position for a Judicial Assistant. He advised that the old law library has been renovated to Judge Curry's acceptance for the additional Circuit Judge to be assigned to Highlands County. Judge Curry is also willing to assign Judge Hunter's Judicial Assistant to Highlands County for the two days Judge Hunter will be in Highlands County. Mr. Cool presented a spread sheet depicting the fee schedule of Highlands, Hardee, and Polk Counties. His recommendation is not to raise the filing fees in Highlands County, since the Court is willing to provide the Judicial Assistant for two days. Nick Sudzina, Court Administrator, spoke in favor of providing a full time Judicial Assistant funded by Highlands County. He advised that Highlands County will be getting another judge in October funded by the state. Mr. Cool recommended that the judge's office be closed when he is not in town to hear cases. Nick Sudzina was afraid that would deny people access to the court system during those days. Mr. Cool suggested that commissioners wait until after the judge starts work and then look at the situation. The problem could go away in October if the new full time circuit judge is assigned to Highlands County. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to accept staff recommendation, to review the workload after the new judge has set up and the Board will adapt accordingly. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ray Napper presented comments in favor of the motion. See SMB 36 Page 135. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

3. Approval of Adopt a Highway Agreement with Francis II Mobile Park Assn.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to allow Mike Eisenhart, "Keep Highlands County Beautiful," Coordinator, the latitude of determining the length of the road, and not have to comply with the two-mile length as stated in the Adopt a Highway contract. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The item was placed back on the agenda for approval.

4. Consent Agenda item number 17-Approval of Consultant Services Authorization #9, pier at Pearce Homstead.

Commissioner Stokes stated concerns for the consultant service charges and asked that staff become more aware of the grants that are being applied for. He questioned why we are spending so much money on grants when the property is still leased. He would like more control on the decision. Vicki Pontius, Operations Manager, explained the grant matches. She also commented on accomplishing the grant efforts and the problems associated with the expiration date for the grants. Carl Cool stated that he has spoken to the REDI Group, and they have agreed to allow the Board to have more input into the grants. This item to be placed back on consent agenda for approval.

5. Consent Agenda item number 18-Approval to execute grant contract, resolution and budget amendment #99-00-151

This item was taken off the Consent agenda for action, and to allow Commissioner Gose to abstain as he has a conflict. He is employed by Heartland Workforce Investment Board, Inc. Wages Coalition, as the Director. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve grant contract, resolution, and budget amendment 99-00-151, for the grant award and contract between South Florida Community College and the Board for the Operation Positive Chance summer program operated by the Sheriff's office. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Gose, who abstained, and presented a memorandum of voting conflict into the record to become a part of the minutes. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 125, and SMB 36 Page 136.

6. Claims Appeal-Gilberto Rivera

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the recommendation of Risk Management and the Insurance Committee to approve Mr. Gilberto Rivera appeal to have Highlands County Health Benefit Plan pay necessary medical expenses related to Maria D. Rivera (TMJ) jaw surgery. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 137.

7. Request to waive landfill tipping fee for the City of Sebring

Carl Cool presented a request of Jerry Leszkiewicz, Director of Solid Waste, to waive the landfill tipping fee of \$20,000 for receipt of 550 tons of drying bed sludge from the City of Sebring Wastewater Treatment Plant. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the request, provided that the conditions of delivery of sludge to the Highlands County Solid Waste Center are met. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 138 for copy of conditions.

8. Request from Reliable Sanitation

Carl Cool reviewed the letter from Attorney Mike Swaine, representing Reliable Sanitation's objection to paragraph 15.0 of the invitation to bid document. The paragraph requires as a condition of submitting a bid, that the current franchise holders agree that all of their existing contract for commercial collection services would be terminated at midnight on September 30, 2000. He feels that both franchise haulers have long term commercial contracts in place, under which they have a right to receive a stream of income beyond September 30, 2000, if they are successful bidders. He recognizes that the Board of County Commissioners may have been concerned about a "level playing field," but that concern does not justify taking the franchise holders' vested property rights. He formally requested that this paragraph be removed from the ITB.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to remove this item from the bid and an addendum be sent out. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ray Napper and Jim Cash presented questions regarding the contract. Jeff Sabin, Waste Management, asked for clarification on the termination of the contract. Ross Macbeth stated that the existing haulers ability to haul will end September 30, 2000, if they are not awarded the franchise. The fact that they have contracts that continue in effect won't help them unless they have a franchise. They would be forced to sell them to realize any value of the contracts. We are not by this action allowing the holder of the contract to continue servicing those contracts beyond September 30th unless they are awarded a new franchise. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. Refer to tape for detail. See SMB 36 Page 146

L. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent Agenda as listed:

- 1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits**

Law Library	176.20
General	1,984,883.18
County Transportation Trust	92,331.34
E911 Operations	16,596.73
Conservation Trust	10,885.00
Intergovt Radio Communication	851.23
Florida Boating Improvement	583.75
Local Govt Infra Surtax	293,232.41
Community Development Block	54,035.61
Affordable Housing Assistance	36,221.69
Special Law Enforcement	1,088.11
Solid Waste	543,872.04
Placid Utilities	96,274.19
Highway Park Utility	2,716.24
Risk Retention Fund	36,745.73
Employee Benefit	163,255.41
Employee Benefit - 2/29/00	191,132.39
Highlands Hosp pass thru	28,274.06
- 2. Approval of minutes of 2-8-00, 2-15-00 and 2-22-00 meetings**
- 3. Reappointments of Commissioner Bob Bullard, Jeanne Renton and Perry Newport to the Heartland Library Cooperative Board. See SMB 36 Page 139.**
- 4. Approval of Personnel Rules and Regulations Time sheet revision. See SMB 36 Page 140.**
- 5. Approval of expenditure of \$7,000 from Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund for needed equipment. See SMB 36 Page 141.**
- 6. Accept into record - Reliable Sanitation audit. See Garbage audits for copy.**
- 7. Approval to execute resolution on FHREDI grant application. See Res. Book 13 Page 126.**
- 8. Approval of resolution to declare local state of emergency. See Res. Book 13 Page 127.**
- 9. Approval of Adopt a Highway Agreement with Francis II Mobile Park Assn. See Adopt a Highway file.**
- 10. Appointment of Lisa Sherman to Health Facilities Authority for a four-year term. See SMB 36 Page 142.**
- 11. Approval of change order CO-02 for Emergency Operations Center. See SMB 36 Page 143.**
- 12. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-130(fishing piers on various lakes) 99-00-136(Sheriff Grant adjustment error) 99-00-138 (correct error on shell pit**

- expansion) 99-00-141(Chastain-Skillman-Ag-Civic Center restrooms). See SMB 36 Page 144.
13. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-137(Library donation) 99-00-146(SHIP encumber remaining balances) 99-00-147(OPS to cover for Loan Processor illnesses and 99-00-150 (Adm. Complex land Acquisition). See Res. Book 13 Page 128.
 14. Approval of resolution, budget amendment 99-00-144(Refuse Disposal System 10-month loan to purchase D7 bulldozer replacement unit). See Res. Book 13 Page 129.
 15. Approval of Chastain-Skillman, Inc. Consultant Services Authorization #13 for leachate sprayfield expansion. See SMB 36 Page 145.
 16. Approval of Chastain-Skillman, Inc. Consultant Services Authorization #15 for storage tank removal.
 17. Approval of Chastain-Skillman, Inc. Consultant Services Authorization #9 for fishing pier at Pearce Homestead
 18. ~~Approval to execute grant contract, "Operation Positive Chance" with South Florida Community College, resolution and budget amendment #99-00-151.~~
 19. Approval to set public hearing date for March 28, 2000 to consider road closing - Placid Airway - Jere D. Creed. See Res. Book 13 Page 131.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

- Richard Conover asked that all public meeting announcements be listed on the agenda. Mr. Conover also spoke regarding the letter from Susan Benton of the Sheriff's office.
- Ray Napper asked that the mileage adjustment fee for the franchisers be addressed by the Commission. Ross Macbeth stated that it will not be an issue after October. The County Administrator was directed to follow through with this request. Mr. Napper also asked that the increase in fuel prices to be considered with the budget.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard urged all citizens to fill out the Census application and return to the appropriate address. He reported that the Lake Placid Flying Club was requesting to lease a facility to fly small airplanes. He has been negotiating with Lake Placid Town Council to utilize their old landfill off of 621.

Commissioner Gose: Resolutions for Glades County requested by FHREDI

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Resolution endorsing a proposed facility for Glades County for the purpose of providing housing, safekeeping, subsistence, and other ancillary services for aliens of all nationalities authorized to be detained in a collaborative effort with the Sheriff of Broward County, and Resolution in support of preserving the Cypress Knee Museum. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 132.

Commissioner Maxcy: Resolution on Everglades Ecosystem Funding

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution urging the Governor and the Florida Legislature to consider dedicating a portion of the state documentary stamp revenue to

provide up to one hundred million dollars per year as the most sound and balanced source of revenue for the restudy. Commissioner Bullard stated that we should specify whose portion the one hundred million will be paying for, and he has concerns that we could be cutting our own revenue source. The commissioners discussed the motion and added additional verbiage stating that it would be the Water Management District's portion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 132.

Commissioner Flowers: Gulf Coast to Atlantic Coast Corridor Symposium

The Chair requested that staff attend a symposium to bring together all State and Local officials and representatives to coordinate ideas regarding the possibility of an east/west access facility. Mr. Cool reported that the County Engineer and the Planner will be attending. See SMB 36 page 147.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

**HIGHLANDS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HARDEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SUN 'N LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

1. The meeting of the three entities was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida on March 14, 2000, with the following members present:

David Flowers	Minor Bryant
C. Guy Maxcy	Gordon R Norris
Edgar E Stokes	Milton Lanier
Bob Bullard	
James L Gose	

Also attending the workshop was Sun'n Lakes Improvement District Attorney, John McClure, Donna Whittington, and Edith Gonzalez. Highlands County staff included Carl Cool, County Administrator, J. Ross Macbeth, Board Attorney, Mike Eastman, Accounting and Finance Director, and Louise Graham, Deputy Clerk.

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **Upcoming County meetings:**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. Clell Ford, Lakes Manager, presented items from the Water Advisory Committee for action by the Board of County Commissioners. He stated that the Committee passed two motions asking that the Board grant permission to the Committee to write a letter, and the Commissioners also send a letter of concern to the South Florida Water Management District, regarding the future of Lake Istokpoga and expressing dissatisfaction that a draft is not available for discussion, when it impacts an area in Highlands County. Joan McClelland, SWFWMD, introduced Bryan Starford, Director of Regulation at the Bartow Service office. Mr. Starford stated that he will be available for the workshop to answer any questions. The workshop will be held on March 21, 2000 at 1:30 p.m. See SMB 36 Page 148 for copy of information. Commissioner Bullard spoke regarding the census and encouraged everyone to mail their report back.

4. **WORKSHOP: Highlands - Hardee connector roads**

Carl Cool, County Administrator, reviewed the history of the Highlands Hammock State Park and the road through the Park that connects Highlands and Hardee counties. The Board of County Commissioners has discussed closing the road through the Park. The Park Service has recommended that Highlands County close the road. The residents who live in Hardee are in opposition to closing the road unless there is another east west road between Highway 66 and 64. The Board also discussed closing Vaughn Road. A motion was made in the past to close Vaughn Road, subject to two conditions, contingent upon the purchase of the property by the state for acquisition of a park and subject to an easement for drainage. Mr. Cool thought that

both stipulations were met, but Ross Macbeth stated that the road was not closed due to a legal technicality. Mr. Cool noted that the small timber bridge on Vaughn Road was scheduled to be replaced with a new concrete bridge by the State DOT. They are asking if we want the bridge replaced. This item should be discussed by the Commission in the near future. The other issue is the shell road that runs through the park. The County Administrator's office receives complaints continually, asking that the road be closed. The County grades the road regularly, but two days later the road is in a washboard condition. County staff met with Hardee County staff, and Sun'n Lake officials were briefed on the study for an alternative route. There is one option available, to pave the road through the park. County staff is not proposing that option as Pete Anderson, Parks Manager, is not in favor. Mr. Cool presented three alternative routes with cost projections for Highlands and Hardee Counties.

Alternative number one, the east west route along the northern boundary of the park, \$2.3 million to Highlands County, \$894,000 to Hardee County.

Alternative number two, extension of Schumacher Road to the west Highlands County boundary, the most expensive of all, Highlands County \$7,972,385, Hardee County \$1.2 million.

Alternative number three, Extension of Sun'n Lake from Balboa Boulevard to County line, Highlands County, two million dollars and Hardee County \$1.7 million

Chairman of Hardee County Commission, Bryant suggested another alternative would be the paving of Hammock Road. Carl Cool stated that the cost of paving the road through the park is estimated at \$400,000 and will be the cheapest of all routes. The traffic count on that road is 517 per day. Commissioner Gose stated that the number one priority of the State Park system is to get the road out of the park. His recommendation is to select an alternative route, due to the safety issue. Commissioner Bryant stated that the Park should have a part in the cost of the new route. Carl Cool will ask DOT for funding if the bridge is not built. Commissioner Stokes spoke in opposition to paving Hammock Road through the Park and in favor of Alternative number 2. Commissioner Flowers agreed that we should not pave the road through the Park and in favor of Alternative number 2 or 3. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of Alternative 2, for a true east west corridor. Commissioner Gose proposed that staff look at extending 635 and Alternative 2, seeking right of way, and ask the state to help with the funding. Funding and land acquisition are the major concerns. Chairman Bryant advised that he will schedule a workshop with his Board and report back to Highlands County. Commissioner Bullard commended staff for the transportation plan presented.

Break 10:40 - 10:55 a.m.

North and South traffic issues

Ramon Gavarrate, County Engineer, stated that US 27 could become a parking lot in 20 years if alternate north-south routes are not provided. Projections call for traffic to increase from the current 38,000 vehicles a day to 57,000 a day in 2020. With other north-south alternatives, it is forecasted to lower the volume of vehicles per day. Having all three phases of the Sebring Parkway completed from Highlands Avenue to Memorial Drive would reduce the number of vehicles per day. The Commission agreed that something needs to be done.

The Board discussed extending County Road 635 from Hammock Road north to Schumacher Road, and entering Sun'n Lake of Sebring at Cortez Avenue and continuing along an undetermined route to Avon Park Estates Boulevard. The Board agreed to meet with residents of affected subdivisions before proceeding to obtain the needed right of way. The first step will be for the County Administrator to develop a plan and a timetable for action at the April 4th meeting. Then the Commission will meet at 6:30 p.m. April 4th with the Sun'n Lake Improvement District Board of Supervisors. Edith Gonzalez, Sun'n Lakes Board, spoke in favor of the proposed route and a joint workshop. John McClure, representing the Sun'n Lake Improvement District, stated that the District is willing to help with the funding of right of way, if the Board will identify the proposed route and commit to the project. He also stated concerns that the land on the northern edge has been purchased by the state, and the state does not like any road going through a conservation corridor. Calvin Smith, Director of Operations, School Board, spoke in favor of closing Vaughn Road, and Hammock Road, in order to free up the counties activities to deal with the north, south boundary in acquisition of right of way. Commissioner Bullard and Commissioner Gose gave a consensus to move forward in acquiring right of way for the north-south corridor. Commissioner Maxcy asked that the residents of each community be contacted for their input. Thomas Welch, President of the Sun'n Lake Homeowners Association asked that the meeting be held by the first week in April to receive input from the northern residents. Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, advised that lots in Unit 21 and 22 have been sold to the state for preservation. Pete Anderson needs to work with the state for releasing these lots. Ray Napper suggested that the road be a limited access road and restricted to vehicles only. Consensus of the Board was to agree that 635 Extension is the best route, establish a time line and move forward including adding back funds to the CIP.

5. ACTION

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action Agenda as listed. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve payment of employee benefits in the amount of \$126,096.21. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval to execute resolution extending the local state of emergency

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution extending the local state of emergency. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 133.

C. Approval of Jaycees Lease

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the lease agreement with the Jaycees for property on State Road 17 for .4084 acres for one month, as on an ongoing lease. With this clause the Board may terminate the lease in 30 days. The lease will continue on for ten years without any action from either party. Commissioner Bullard asked that staff check if the reduction of the land can place them in violation of any land use requirements. Mr. Cool advised that he will follow through. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

D. Natural Resources Advisory Grant-Acquisition of Winding Waters property

Carl Cool presented a request that the Board contract with Keith Fountain, Nature Conservancy, to negotiate an option for \$10,000 for a possible purchase of Winding Waters property. If he is unsuccessful in the option, the County will not owe anything. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve that Keith Fountain negotiate the option to acquire Winding Waters property. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. Carl Cool reported that the City was not in agreement with a joint partnership in acquiring the Fewell property. See SMB 36 Page 149.

E. Commissioner Maxcy - Screen Room

Commissioner Maxcy proposed Screen Rooms as a workshop item to be heard on April 11, 2000. The Chairman stated that April, May, and June have been filled. He suggested that Commissioner Maxcy work with Mr. Cool for a possible date to be discussed before the Board.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, MARCH 21, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending March 21, 2000. The Farm Report was also given.

- B. Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. Upcoming meetings:**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. *Carl Cool commended Road and Bridge staff for completing the resurfacing projects for fiscal year 1999-2000 ahead of schedule, and able to obtain the old prices on shell.* Mr. Cool also reported that the Planning and Zoning Board and the Board of Adjustments are accepting resumes for two open positions on their Boards. The Sebring Library will be closed for two days due to the expansion.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action Agenda as amended:

- Discussion regarding the Handyman ordinance as *item number two* under the County Administrator.
- Remove Consent Agenda number 15 and place under the County Administrator as *item number three*.
- Remove Consent Agenda number 7 and place under the County Administrator as *item number four*.
- Remove Consent Agenda number 11 and number 16 and place under the County Administrator as *item number 5*.
- Add Resolution under the Board Attorney *as item number 2*.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Public hearing to consider an ordinance establishing Vantage Pointe II Special Benefit District

Proof of publication entered into the record by the County Administrator. See Proof of Pub Ordinance Book 2 Page 84. Ross Macbeth explained that a special district is being established to facilitate improvements and meet the needs of the neighborhood. The Special District will ensure that the improvements are completed if the owner does not follow through. He read the captions of the ordinance into the record. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt ordinance creating the Vantage Pointe II Special Benefit District. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Dick Vanderlaan advised that the owner is proceeding with plans for the construction. Cliff Ables, Attorney speaking for the Developer, stated that he will be moving forward with the improvements, and spoke in favor of the motion. Commissioner Gose presented questions regarding the need for a Special Benefit District. Ross Macbeth advised it was his recommendation to develop the district. If the improvements are completed, no assessments will be made. He is protecting the homeowners. Commissioner Bullard stated concerns that this could transfer responsibility for the improvements from the owner to the people. Ross Macbeth advised that the owner owns all the lots. Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor of the assessment. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. James Noel: Request from Sebring Falls Property Owners Association

James Noel, President of the Sebring Falls Property Owners Association, appeared before the Board with a request for assistance to create a run off ditch at the west end of the Sebring Falls subdivision to carry off the water to the water main on Route 27. Carl Cool stated that the request is to accept the ditch for county maintenance as it was never properly maintained. Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer presented a slide presentation depicting the drainage problem. He stated that the public easement does not allow room for the gradeall. Mr. Cool recommended that the County accept the ditch for drainage and address the structure when the work is started. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Garmon Longnecker recommended that the water be moved away from Sebring Falls. Ron Moffat presented suggestion for cleaning the ditch. Bruce VanJaarsveld, Road and Bridge Superintendent, stated difficulty with putting a gradeall into a 20-foot easement. Commissioner Stokes agreed that we need to clean the ditches and get rid of the water. Commissioner Gose asked that a formal request come from the homeowners association with a plan. He also recommended trying to secure an easement. The consensus of the Board was to request that staff attend the homeowners meeting on April 6, 2000 and bring back a formal request from the Association. See SMB 36 Page 150.

Break 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

C. David Duke, Aeromed: Request for resolution

David Duke, representing Aeromed Transport, presented a resolution into the record in support of funding for Aeromed Transport in the Rural Emergency Medical Services. The Chair read the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Resolution in support of the crucial service provided by Aeromed II and to urge the Florida Legislature to approve the requested funding in order to continue providing access to trauma care for our citizens. Commissioner Gose asked that a letter of support also be sent. Commissioners Stokes and Bullard accepted the amendment for a letter of support. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 134.

D. Jane Breylinger, Habitat for Humanity: 21st Century Challenge Program

Jane Breylinger, representing Habitat for Humanity, presented a proposal for a new project to eliminate Substandard Housing in Highlands County. This program will require the efforts from everyone in the County affiliated with Housing. This includes Code Enforcement, Non-Profits and volunteer time using grants and programs that are available to work with owners of substandard dwelling. David Heacock, Housing Director, spoke in support. The consensus of the Board was to support the Housing Initiative in Highlands County and designate Commissioner Bullard as the liaison from the Commission. See SMB 36 Page 151.

E. John Morgan, South Fla. Water Mgmt. District: Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan

Missie Barletto, South Florida Water Management District, introduced Sharon Fowler, Planner with the West Palm Beach office. Sharon presented a slide presentation of the Kissimmee Basin Water Supply Plan for the next 20 years. See SMB 36 Page 152 for copy. She requested comments from the Board of County Commissioners before the Plan is presented to the Governing Board on April 13, 2000. Two of the problems facing the Kissimmee Basin are draw downs of the Florida Aquifer caused by rapid urban growth in the Orlando area and the demands on water from Lake Istokpoga for agricultural use. This could create problems, including more sinkholes, damaged wetland and degradation of the water supply. Part of the solution, Fowler stated is to draw on more water from Lake Okeechobee, as well as Lake Istokpoga. They want to increase the back pumping from Lake Okeechobee. The two options have to work in concert. Commissioner Bullard stated concerns for turning Lake Istokpoga into a functioning reservoir and recommended the environment also be addressed. Commissioner Maxcy recommended that the slides be presented to the Water Advisory Council. Commissioner Gose and Stokes spoke in opposition to the plan.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Bill Dwinell, President of the Friends of Istokpoga, opposed the SFWMD plan. Attorney Wendell Whitehouse, representing the Water Advisory Committee, spoke in opposition to the plan. Beecham Furse, representing Florida Game and Fish Commission, spoke regarding the management of the Lake. Carl Cool spoke regarding the draw downs and stated concerns that they are putting people out of business, citing the number of boat ramps, that are now dry, especially with the drought conditions. Mr. Cool suggested that the Water Management District give the Board more time to respond to the plan, before sending it to the governing board. Commissioner Maxcy asked for a delay of 30 days. The Chair advised that two weeks to respond to the plan is not realistic. The consensus of the Board was to prepare their response and have a representative attend the meeting in West Palm Beach and to stay in contact with the County Administrator for further updates.

F. Sandy Engel, Gulfstream Natural Gas System: Request for letter of support

Sandy Engel, Gulfstream Natural Gas System, informed the Commissioners of the proposed Gulfstream alternative route through Highlands County. This was accomplished after the January FERC Scoping meeting where the landowners stated concerns regarding the impacts to their properties. Should this route receive support from the community, she is asking that Highlands County Commissioners send a letter to FERC supporting the alternative route. Carl Cool entered into the record a letter from Rafter T. Ranch, James Whol, Fritz Stein, and Glen Murphy in opposition to the proposed route. See SMB 36 Page 153.

The following persons spoke in opposition to the proposed route:

- R. D. Butler, owner of Arbuckle Creek Ranch, spoke of the impact to his property and in opposition.
- Ginger Lee Mitchell Lindo, spoke in opposition and presented questions.
- D. Patrick Dalton, Attorney, representing all the property owners in the area, spoke in opposition.
- Steve Bronson, Manager of Montsdeoca Ranch, spoke in opposition.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to deny the request for a letter of support for the Gulfstream Natural Gas System's proposed route. The Chair called for public input on the motion. Mrs. Rose Butler asked that the Board place this motion in writing and send a letter to FERC. Commissioner Maxcy did not support any letter from the Commission to FERC. Sandy Engel stated that the company will look for another route. Commissioner Stokes commented on using state lands at the bombing range. Sandy advised that there were construction concerns tied to a route through the Air Force bombing range. Commissioner Bullard commended Gulfstream for finding another route that reduced the number of affected people. However, he will not endorse this route. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. Commissioner Maxcy and Stokes asked that the Gas Company use state lands. The discussion will be continued at the 4:00 p.m. workshop with the property owners and the Gulfstream representatives. See SMB 36 Page 153.

J. County Administrator: Recommendation to accept roads for maintenance

The County Administrator reported that he and Commissioner Maxcy met with the homeowners of Orange Villa Mobile Home Estates Subdivision, regarding three roads. The Plat was recorded in 1960 and the roads have been paved for 25 years. The roads will meet the criteria for county maintenance except for the right of way. The 1960 plat dedicated only 30 feet of right of way to the public. There are no drainage problems or utility needs for the right of way. The existing 16 foot pavement will need to be resurfaced in the near future. Mr. Cool sees no problems with the county taking over these roads for maintenance under the existing circumstances. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to accept Tangerine Lane, Hibiscus Court, and Jasmine Drive, located in Orange Villa Mobile Home Estates Subdivision, for county maintenance. Harold Cunningham spoke in favor of the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB. 36 Page 154.

G. Director of Compliance & Internal Audit: County-Com phone project

Bob Jamison, Director of Compliance & Internal Audit, as County-Com Project Manager, presented the status of the project. He advised that upon completion of the proposal evaluations, it was discovered that the vendor's proposals did not meet the economic model criteria and exceeded the budgeted capital expenditure amount. After discussion with the two vendors, they have jointly redesigned the phone network portion of the new system and believe the new design could satisfy the phone requirement as well as meet or come close to the economic criteria. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to waive the Board's adopted purchasing policies and procedures and accept revised proposals from the two qualified vendors, Siemens and Lucent, for the County-Com phone switch and telephones. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 155.

H. Risk Manager:

1. Contract for Employee Flexible Benefits Program

Wayne Falco, CAC, Risk Manager, presented a request to approve a direct contract with Dorrell, Hancock & Carter, CPA, for operation of the County's Flexible Benefits Plan (Cafeteria Plan), due to coordination problems dealing with Robey-Barber. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the contract as recommended by staff, with the three amendments as listed:

2. **Amendment #1 to Health Plan Document - Mental Health Cap**
3. **Amendment #2 to Health Plan Document - Maximum Premium Refund**
4. **Amendment #3 to Health Plan Document - Self-auditing of Eligible Bills**

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Employee Benefit file for copy.

I. Board Attorney: *Highlands County v. Landmark Enterprises, Inc. et al*

Ross Macbeth, Board Attorney, presented a copy of the Proposal for Settlement filed by Defendant Lee Woods, which calls for the payment of \$1,000 by Lee Woods to the County for full and final settlement of the County's claims against him in this litigation. Lee Woods' first affirmative defense asserted that the County's claim is barred by the operation of the statute of limitations. The limitations period of Florida Statutes, on legal and equitable actions on a contract, obligation, or liability founded on a written instrument is five years. That statute of limitations is applicable to the County by reason of Florida Statutes, Section 95.011. It is his recommendation that the Board accept the Proposal for Settlement made by Defendant Lee Woods.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to accept the Proposal for Settlement made by Defendant Lee Woods in Case No. GC98-40 with the deletion of paragraph 5.b. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Gose, who voted nay. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 156.

2. Resolution - Handyperson Resolution

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution, with revisions as recommended by the Board Attorney for two additional paragraphs to include insurance requirements for the Handyperson ordinance. Upon roll call, all Commissioner voted aye. See Res. Book 13 Page 135.

3. Handyperson - deadline

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to extend the deadline to issue a license until May 30, 2000 for handymen to get the license required by the ordinance adopted September 28, 1999, and direct staff to advertise a public hearing to amend the ordinance. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

4. Consent Agenda Item 15 -discussion on Resolution for Wolf Creek and Vizcaya Lakes Development

Commissioner Bullard asked that staff review the proposed resolution and soften the language to include consideration that there is a DRI located near by to be developed at the same time, and the cumulative effect of the two might be considered. Staff to bring back a different Resolution.

5. Consent agenda Item number 11 discussion-American Red Cross contract

Richard Conover asked if this contract is affiliated with the Polk County Chapter. The County Administrator advised that it was not. These are local chapter dollars. Rick Helms advised that some of the paper work is handled in Polk County but none of the dollars are affected. This item to be placed back on the Consent agenda for approval.

6. Consent agenda Item number 16-Approval of job description revision

Carl Cool explained that staff is changing a job description that will be vacant. Fred Carino, Personnel Director, presented a correction to the document. This item will be placed back on the Consent agenda for approval.

K. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits as listed:

Law Library	1,703.75
General	303,995.38
County Transportation Trust	137,663.69
E911 Operations	64,459.01
Intergovt Radio Communication	350.00
Conservation Trust	100.00
Law Enforcement Education	6,591.76
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	273,351.51
Community Development Block	70,140.20
Affordable Housing Assistance	24,392.00
Special Law Enforcement	5,361.00
Solid Waste	45,248.94
Placid Utilities	61,581.19
Highway Park Utility	290.55
Risk Retention Fund	166,282.87
Employee Benefit	115,324.80

2. Approval of minutes of 3-7-00 meeting
3. Accept into record - February Monthly Report
4. Approval to release Notice of Nuisance, Case #9908-0014. See Josephine Heights file.
5. Approval of resolution to extend the local state of emergency. See Res. Book 13 Page 136.
6. Approval of Emergency Assistance Grant #00EM-D3-07-38-01-028.
7. Approval of Lake Sebring Cooperator Agreement with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. See SMB 36 Page 157.
8. Approval of change order #3 to E.O. Koch Construction - Sebring Library

- expansion and renovation. See SMB 36 Page 158.
9. Approval to purchase equipment (Electric Truck Crane to be mounted on the Ford 350 Flat-Bed Truck, and budget amendment 99-00-156).
 10. Approval of budget amendment 99-00-159. (Law Library temporary help).
 11. Approval to execute grant contract with American Red Cross.
 12. Approval of Resolution approving contract with Government Funding Specialist, Inc. to prepare the CDBG application for the year 2000. See Res. Book 13 Page 137.
 13. Approval of change order #7 with Detwiller Courthouse drywall. See Courthouse Master Plan file.
 14. Approval of County Rural Development Program grant. See County Rural Development Grant file.
 15. ~~Approval of resolution on Wolf Creek and Vizcaya Lakes developments.~~
 16. Approval of job description revision (Highway Safety Supervisor). See SMB 36 Page 159.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Ray Napper advised the Commission that one of the haulers has not submitted their financial report as required by the Solid Waste ordinance. He suggested that they be removed from the short-list for non performance of the requirements. The Chair advised that General Services will inform the Commission if they are in violation. He thanked Mr. Napper for his continued efforts.

6. COMMISSIONERS

- **Commissioner Bullard** presented a *US Highway 27 Speed Limit Survey* reaching from Tallahassee to South Bay, Florida. Sebring has the highest average speed and the highest posted speed of any community on Highway 27. The statewide average on four lane portions of 27 within communities is a little more than 40 miles per hour. Our average is up at 55 miles per hour. The Chair stated that he will present this information to the Community Traffic Safety Team for discussion. See SMB 36 Page 160 for copy.
- **Commissioner Stokes** reported on a road problem on Howard Road. The solution is to move the road back into the 20-foot road right of way, taking out approximately five trees and placing shell on the road. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to correct the path of the road to bring back into compliance with the platted right of way. Commissioner Bullard spoke in opposition as the County has a prescriptive easement, and he doesn't want to spend the money or cut the trees down. Upon roll call, Commissioner Stokes and Maxcy voted aye. Commissioners Gose, Bullard, and Flowers voted nay. The motion did not carry. See SMB 36 Page 161. Staff was directed to contact property owners and set a public hearing.
- **Commissioner Gose -sick leave donation**
Commissioner Gose presented a letter into the record from Barry Millirans asking that upon his

retirement, he be allowed to donate his sick leave back into the pool. Staff was directed to follow through and address this request.

7. RECESS - 2:15 p.m.

8. RECONVENE - 2:45 p.m. Workshop with Southwest Florida Water Management District

E. D. "Sonny" Vergara, Executive Director of the Southwest Florida Management District, presented a brief overview of the District, its legislative responsibilities and current activities. Key staff members, including Brian Starford, Bartow Regulation Director, JoAnne McClellan, Governmental Affairs Coordinator, and Richard Owen, Planning Director, were available for questions. A representative from the South Florida Water Management District also participated at the workshop. Mr. Vergara stated that he would like a consensus from the affected citizens, public officials and affected parties before taking final action on a 20-year water supply plan. He also agreed with the County Administrator that a two-county water authority, Hardee and Highlands, should be adopted, since Polk County is not interested in joining the authority. This could be important to Highlands and Hardee in the future, since the entire 16-county water management district is involved in local authorities. Commissioner Gose, who has represented Highlands on the Southern Water Use Caution area, thanked representatives for their participation. He presented questions on why wells are under consideration for Josephine and Arbuckle Creek areas. Mr. Vergara responded that the consideration was to replenish, if necessary, the stressed lakes on the Ridge. He said the large wells south of Lake Placid are simply for testing and research purposes, and not constructed to transport water. Because of pending legislation that would allow private business involvement in water resource matters, meetings are under way this week to discuss concerns. He stated that planning is necessary for continued growth to meet the legislative mandates and offer alternatives. The representatives agreed to return to Highlands County in June or earlier when the initial drafts are completed to gather as much local input as possible. Water Market legislation was also discussed. It would require that water levels be set. Jim Polatty thanked the district representatives for all their help with the Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Refer to tape for further detail.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, APRIL 4, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending April 4, 2000. The Farm Report was also given for the month of March. Lt. Benton noted a problem with the crows eating the vegetables before they are ready to be harvested.

- B. **Clerk**

C. Michael Eastman presented items into the record for fiscal year ending 1998-1999 as follows:

- The Comprehensive Government Financial Report
- The Annual Local Government Financial Report

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to accept these reports into the record. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

- Browning-Ferris Industries of North America, Inc. Audited Financial Statements

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to accept the Browning Ferris Industries audited financial reports into the record. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. Mike Eastman advised that Dorrell & Hancock will be present at the Board meeting on April 18th to review audit findings.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to set the Action Agenda as amended:

- Remove Consent agenda item number 15 and place under the County Administrator.

- Remove Consent agenda item number 18 and place under the County Administrator.
- Add approval of minutes of March 21, 2000 to Consent agenda item number 2.
- Place a letter from Preston Colby for use of facilities under the County Administrator.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

Doris Gentry: School Readiness Program

Doris Gentry presented a report on the School Readiness Program. The basic problem outlined seemed to be associated with the deterioration of the family structure. She invited everyone to attend the next discussion of the Plan to be held at the School Board office on April 11, 2000. Gabriel Read, President of the Sebring Optimist Club, presented comments on problems with preparation of children before they enter the classroom.

John Borgemeister: CDBG application for Bella Vista/Home Depot

John Borgemeister, representing All-Star Properties, presented a request for support of the Bella Vista/Home Depot project to be considered as a CDBG application candidate for funding for the year 2000. Home Depot has proposed locating a 108,000 square foot store just south of Quincy's restaurant. The property will also include a small shopping mall with stores to lease. The project will need infrastructure improvements such as water and sewer hookups as well as intersection improvements to U.S. 27, Bayview Street and New Life Way. In order to qualify for the grant, Home Depot will have to create 22 low to moderate wage jobs. However, Home Depot could create closer to 75 jobs. Home Depot is willing to be hooked up to Sebring City services, allowing the city to expand municipal water and sewer service to the west side of U.S. 27. Commission Maxcy questioned who will disburse the funds. Carl Cool advised that the Board of County Commissioners will receive the grant and Fred Fox may disburse the funds. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the applicant. Carl Cool spoke in opposition, as the project competes with other businesses. He stated that if the County gets the money, and the improvements are made and Home Depot does not meet the requirements, the county would end up having to pay back the grant. He suggested that the Board stipulate that Home Depot promise to pay back the grant money if requirements are not met.

Mr. Borgemeister explained that the land is home to the sand skink, an endangered species, for which there is no set mitigation protocol. Home Depot has proposed buying two acres for every acre developed and is still waiting on a response from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If permits aren't approved, Home Depot could walk away from the project. They want all permits in hand before they make the commitment. However, timing is an issue and the county will need to apply for the grant money soon in order to get it for this fiscal cycle and have it in time for work to be done.

Commissioner Maxcy spoke in opposition to the county pursuing the grant for Home Depot. He believes that they are coming anyway. He cited the stable millage rate, no impact fee, high senior population and a promise of a good quality of life for their managers. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the project, as it will provide a benefit to small businesses with the proposed infrastructure improvements. He also said that the board has helped Albertson's and the Chateau Elan Lodge with grants, even though they compete with

other businesses. Chairman Flowers stated that he didn't believe that the commission should look into helping one competitive store over another. He felt that new growth should pay its fair share.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to move forward with this grant and set a public hearing for April 25, 2000 and final approval. Carl Cool spoke in opposition to the grant application, as he feels the cooperative offices in Atlanta, Georgia will be the only benefactor of the grant. Ross Macbeth stated that the county should expect that Home Depot will pick up any cost incurred by default with the grant. Ron Cauthen, Engineer for the project, stated that plans are in place and permits have been applied for. The only permit that is causing difficulty is with U.S. Fish and Wildlife, regarding the sand skink. If that permit is not approved, the project could go away. Upon roll call, Commissioners Bullard, Gose and Stokes voted aye. Commissioners Maxcy and Flowers voted nay. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 170.

Break 10:35 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Don Bates, Soil & Water Conservation District: Request for loan to be reimbursed by SWFWMD

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve request of Don Bates, Soil and Water Conservation District, for a loan to produce an educational video on protection of Highlands County Watersheds with a budget amendment. The grant has been received in the amount of \$4500 from the Southwest Florida Water Management District and will be repaid to the Board once the funds are expended and the grants monies received from SWFWMD. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 171.

Susan Benton, Sheriff's Office:

1. Proclamation on victims' rights

Susan Benton read the Proclamation into the record. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Proclamation, recognizing the week of April 9th - 15th, 2000 as Crime Victims' Rights Week in Highlands County to continue the efforts to fight crime, and to reaffirm the commitment to see that crime victims receive respect and understanding. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 148. Lt. Benton announced that on April 10, 2000 at 12:00 p.m. the Sheriff will read the Proclamation at a Dare to Dream recognition meeting for crime victims.

2. Request execution of grant and appointment of a grant coordinator

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve execution of the Drug Control and System Improvement Program Funding for the FY 2001, and to designate Lt. Susan Benton for the purpose of coordinating the preparation of the application for grant funds with the Bureau of Community Assistance, as the Project Director, as required by the Department of Community Affairs. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Road & Bridge Superintendent: Request for County maintenance of Concord Street

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve request of Bruce Van Jaarsveld, Road and Bridge Superintendent, to assume that portion of Duane Palmer Boulevard that is non

county maintained, allowing Concord Street to be assumed for county maintenance, based on a letter of commitment from the District agreeing to pay the cost. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 172.

Development Director: Resolution to DCA on Wolf Creek and Vizcaya Lakes developments

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt revised Resolution and submit to the Department of Community Affairs, concerning the proposed Wolf Creek (Osprey Lakes) and Vizcaya Lakes residential/golf course developments, requesting that the department consider in its review the cumulative impact of both developments. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 149.

Board Attorney

No report presented.

County Administrator:

Proposed CR-635 corridor consideration

Carl Cool briefed the Board on past discussions regarding the proposed CR-635 corridor consideration. He presented a detailed drawing showing the proposed route from State Road 64 South to 66. The proposed route will include using the existing 635 road, which is four miles long, building two miles there, and one mile in the park and connecting onto an existing road. See SMB 36 Page 173. The money designated for the road has been moved from the Capital Improvement Plan. The first step will be to approve the basic corridor, and set up meetings with the homeowners' association for their input. He also recommended that May 23, 2000 be set as a public hearing date to close Vaughn Road.

Commissioner Gose presented four letters into the record in opposition to the corridor from Clive & Judy Kelly, Nancy P. Dickey, Alvin & Sally Pals, and Bill & Leona Haase. See SMB 36 Page 174. The Chair opened the floor for public input. Tom Welch, Sun'n Lake Estates, and also representing the property owners association, Clive Kelly, Richard Morey, Sally Pals, James Dow, Everett Eidenberger, Tammie Freudenberger, and Ginny Bohecchio spoke in opposition to the CR-635 corridor. Gabriel Read asked the Board to look at a master plan, and be consistent with the procedures for building roads. Susan Benton, representing the Sheriff's Department, spoke in favor due to public safety issues.

The County Administrator advised that Board and staff will be meeting with the homeowners' association and discussing the issues. No action was taken by the Board.

1. Sebring Airport Board nominations

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to make no recommendation to the City of Sebring for reappointment to the Sebring Airport Authority Board. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 175.

2. Request from Gulfstream

Carl Cool presented a request to the Board from Gulfstream Natural Gas Company, for permission to survey the landfill property, as it is located on one of the proposed routes designated by the gas pipeline, and most of the private land owners have asked that public lands be used whenever possible.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to allow Gulfstream Natural Gas System to survey any county owned property being considered as a possible route for the pipeline, with the following conditions:

- The County Administrator to be called 48 hours in advance of any personnel entering County property.
- By granting this right, the County accepts no responsibility to grant an easement or right of way at a later date.
- Gulfstream holds the County harmless for any claims or actions resulting from the work of the survey on a form approved by the Board Attorney.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Maxcy, who voted nay. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 176.

3. Letter from Preston Colby for use of facility for the Balloon Festival

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve a request to allow Greater Sebring Festival’s Inc. to use the emergency communications unit, with stipulation that there is adequate release of liability, signed by the Florida Citrus Balloon Festival, and prepared by the Board Attorney. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 177.

4. Consent Agenda item number 15 -Authorization #18 (Potable Water System) and budget amendment 99-00-164

The Board discussed the cost involved for the design, permitting, and construction, of the potable water supply for the HCSWMC. It was a consensus of the Board to place this item back on the Consent agenda for approval.

5. Consent Agenda item number 18 - Approval of change order number 1 - Vantage Pointe/Thunderbird Hills drainage project

Carl Cool explained the request to replace the sod for driveways at the Vantage Pointe/Thunderbird Hills drainage project. The consensus of the Board was to place this item back on the Consent agenda for approval.

Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Consent agenda as amended:

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits

Law Library	682.49
General	2,393,523.11
County Transportation Trust	105,552.80
E911 Operations	209.98
Intergovt Radio Communication	501.23

Local Govt Infra Surtax	176,628.03
Community Development Block	19,801.26
Affordable Housing Assistance	16,253.95
Special Law Enforcement	1,398.44
Solid Waste	81,255.42
Placid Utilities	9,901.87
Highway Park Utility	109.86
Risk Retention Fund	608.70
Employee Benefit	43,656.33

2. Approval of minutes of 3-14-00 meeting and 3-21-00 regular meeting.
3. Approval of resolution on SHIP mortgages and promissory notes. See Res. Book 13 Page 148.
4. Approval of resolution to extend the local state of emergency. See Res. Book 13 Page 149.
5. Approval to sell tax certificates 95-8070 and 95-8071(Roland J. or Joyce F. Vavrosky). See SMB 36 Page 178.
3. Approval of equipment change request for 1-4,000 gallon water tank \$6,550 Tool boxes only \$1,689. See SMB 36 Page 179.
7. Approval to begin two step disposal process of County surplus, and allow item #247 (1955 International Pumper) on the surplus list to be donated to the Sebring Firemen Association. See SMB 36 Page 180.
8. Approval of 50% settlement on old accounts for EMS. See SMB 36 Page 181.
9. Approval of proclamation - "Week of the Young Child." See Res. Book 13 Page 150.
10. Approval of agreement with Polk Community College for EMT students. See SMB 181.
11. Approval of proclamation: "Better Hearing and Speech Month." See Res. Book 13 Page 151.
12. Approval of proclamation: "National Library Week." See Res. Book 13 Page 152.
13. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-163 (County Engineer additional OPS due to vacant positions and 99-00-165 (Personnel OPS).
14. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-161(recognize revenue from Summers & Larson lease to be paid to SFWMD for lease of Lockett Estate), and 99-00-167 (SHIP 7th year). See Res. Book 13 Page 153 & 154.
15. Approval of Authorization #18 Chastain-Skillman, Inc. (Potable Water System) and budget amendment 99-00-164. See SMB 36 Page 182.
16. Approval to donate County surplus fire truck to Sebring Firemen, Inc. See SMB 36 Page 183.
17. Approval to accept drainage easements for Sebring Park, Riverside Estates, and Arbuckle Ranchettes. See SMB 36 Page 183.
18. Approval of change order number 1 - Vantage Point/Thunderbird Hills drainage project. See SMB 36 Page 184.

19. Approval of change order number 1 - Tomoka Heights 10" well project. See SMB 36 Page 185.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Richard Conover discussed committee meetings and lack of attendance for the required quorum. He also suggested that the Board seek a new vendor for snacks and soft drinks at the Government Center.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Flowers presented a preliminary report on commitments from the legislators in Tallahassee. Senator Laurant agreed to work toward Article Five funding and also a commitment for funding Aeromed. Representative Minton promised increased enforcement from Florida Highway Patrol in this area, and a commitment through him from DOT to be more responsive to the speed limit issues.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, APRIL 11, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Chairman David Flowers. The Pledge of Allegiance was also led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Upcoming meetings:**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **Workshop on homestead exemption**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented a plan to the Board to offer the option of enacting an ordinance to grant a second homestead exemption of up to \$25,000 to qualified senior citizens, aged 65 or older, who have an adjusted gross household income of \$20,000 or less. In order for the citizens of Highlands County to be eligible for the 2001-2002 fiscal year, Highlands County will have to pass an ordinance by December 1, 2000. The ordinance will not exempt taxes for a school district. It also will not exempt residents from taxes from the city, unless the city adopted a similar ordinance. Mr. Cool stated that if the exemption was awarded to a resident, it could save the homeowner \$212.50 a year in property taxes, thereby decreasing the revenue coming to the County. Seniors must reapply for the second exemption each year because their income levels will change. The Property Appraiser predicated a loss of \$303,337 revenue to the County. The state predicts a loss of \$1,000,994 revenue.

The County Administrator stated that the county could reduce the impact of losing funds by increasing the fee services or increasing the millage rate. Commissioner Gose asked the County Administrator to find out why there is such a variation in the estimates. He also requested information from other counties that has approved the exemption. Hillsborough County has approved a three-tier approach, awarding a \$15,000 exemption this year, \$20,000 in 2001, and the full \$25,000 in 2002. Commissioner Stokes wondered why the small counties were not making the exemption available.

Mr. Cool suggested that staff prepare two budget options. One budget for the next fiscal year, without the exemption, and another to see how that year would differ if it had the exemption. Commissioner Maxcy recommended that staff tie into the budget the senior tax work off program, as a way to recoup some of the funds. The Chair entered into the record 14 letters and 70 phone calls in favor of implementation. See

Homestead Exemption file for information. Commissioner Bullard stated that he would be willing to look at the exemption, but would not support it by cutting services that help the same group. Commissioner Flowers asked that staff look at the idea of the tiered approach, offering a gradually increasing exemption every year, until the \$25,000 limit is reached. Ross Macbeth agreed that such a plan would be possible if done as a phase in with different incremental amounts, to automatically phase in, with each of several successive years, combined in one ordinance. Commissioner Stokes stated concerns for the program and mentioned a glitch that could allow a person in the program with an adjusted gross income below \$20,000. Commissioner Maxcy advised that the Florida Association is working to correct the adjusted gross income glitch for next year. Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor of the program with the tiered approach. Tom Portz suggested, in addition to doing the tiered options with the budget, to also track expected cost to the Property Appraiser. Raymond McIntyre, Property Appraiser, stated that he does not anticipate hiring any additional staff, but expects major changes to the software and record keeping system. He expanded on the associated cost related to different taxable values being applied.

The Chair opened the floor to the public for information on the program. Gabriel Read of Avon Park Lakes, advised the commission to proceed with caution, as the system could be abused. Jim Cash, of Lake Placid, asked the Board to consider winter residents who are not eligible for the benefit, but would carry the extra burden of paying for the exemption. Richard Conover of Avon Park, spoke in favor of the program, and suggested the Board delete the overtime payments and use the money for implementation. Tom Welch, resident of the Sun'n Lakes Improvement District, spoke in favor of the program, but asked the Board to take the conservative approach. Clayton Womer spoke in opposition to the program. Staff was directed to acquire more information from other counties and present different scenario with the budget. Rick Helms, Budget Director, mentioned other programs that have been implemented to benefit seniors. Raymond McIntyre, presented information on the amendment 10, Save our homes exemption, and the effect on the tax base. The consensus of the Board was to proceed with the budget scenario, and possibly hold another workshop in August or September, but to proceed with caution. Commissioner Gose suggested that staff take a look at cost, and maybe consider increasing services for New Hope.

5. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda with the deletion of Item number 5-C. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve payment of county benefits in the amount of \$ 54,322.36. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval to execute resolution extending the local state of emergency

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution extending the local state of emergency. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 155.

C. ~~Approval to execute resolution for Freedom Boat Club, Inc.~~

Item deleted.

D. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-178 and -179

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendment 99-00-178, to transfer funds into the project account to allow remodeling in the commodities area, and budget amendment 99-00-179, to complete water main replacement project on Fentress Drive. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, APRIL 18, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by the Clerk of Courts, L.E. "Luke" Brooker. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending April 18, 2000 with a total of 323 inmates. She stated that the Sheriff will be releasing several of the inmates today. Tom Portz reported that a preproposal meeting scheduled for the architect solicitation for the new jail pod is scheduled for tomorrow.

- B. **Clerk**

L.E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts, presented brief announcements as follows:

- 79th County birthday celebration in the Courthouse rotunda *today*, April 18, 2000 at 10:30 a.m.
- Highlands County Special Olympics Torch Run beginning at the Courthouse on April 25, 2000.
- National Day of Prayer to be held on May 4, 2000 at 11:00 a.m. for the 7th consecutive year.
- Peace Officers Memorial Day Ceremony on May 15, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. to honor the fallen police officers.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the action agenda as amended:

- Remove Consent agenda item 4 and place under the County Administrator as item G-6.
- Add resolution and budget amendment number 99-00-180 to Consent agenda item 15.
- Add a report from the County Administrator on a conference call as G-7.
- Remove Consent agenda item number 10 for discussion at the request of Richard Conover, and place as G-8.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Peggy Becerra, SFCC: “Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Month”

Peggy Becerra, Highlands County Teen Parent/Pregnancy Prevention Specialist, presented a Proclamation to promote Highlands County Teen Pregnancy Prevention, and read into the record. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Proclamation, proclaiming the month of May as ***Teen Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Month in Highlands County***. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 156.

B. Marcellus Mason: Lawsuit

Marcellus Mason spoke to the Commission regarding problems with county employees. The Chair advised Mr. Mason that since a lawsuit is pending, there will be no discussion. No action was taken. See SMB 36 Page 186 for copy of the letter.

C. Assistant County Admin.:

1. Sebring Airport Authority financial statement and audit

Sebring Airport Authority financial statement and audit report for fiscal year ended September 30, 1998 and 1999 was presented into the record by the Asst. County Administrator. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to accept document into the record. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Sebring Airport Authority file for copy.

2. Request to waive bidding process on EMS delinquent receivables

Tom Portz presented a request to waive the bidding process on EMS delinquent receivables and seek a proposal from the Med-Horizon Billing, Inc. to work the stale EMS accounts. The contractor has agreed to accept 8.5% of the collections. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the request of the Asst. County Administrator and secure a contract with Med-Horizon Billing. Commissioner Bullard stated concerns for removing the receivables from one company to another, especially when a former employee of Sky Asset is employed by Med-Horizon. Mr. Portz advised that he will seek further information on the contractual relationship and bring it back to the Commission. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See EMS file for copy of proposal.

3. Request approval of EOC change order

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve two EOC change orders in the amount of \$64,567.36, to allow antenna configurations to be completed on the new tower, and additional wiring for telephones and data processing. The installation of this equipment will allow for complete shut down of the old EOC, and will result in an annual savings of \$45,820 for the first year. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 187.

D. Board Attorney:

Request to waive interest on liens, Villone v. Clark, et al, Case No. GC99-331

Ross Macbeth reviewed correspondence from Attorney Cliff Ables regarding client, Villone v. Clark. Attorney Cliff Ables spoke to the Commission requesting the Board waive the interest on liens, Case No. GC99-331. The client intends to build onto the property and place it back on the tax roll. He was unaware of the liens on the property when the property was purchased through a tax deed, and since Mr. Villone is semi-disabled, the interest creates a hardship. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by

Commissioner Gose, to reduce the interest from 10% simple to 5.95% simple interest on this case only. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 188 for back up documentation.

2. Government in the Sunshine briefing

Ross Macbeth briefed the Commission on the issues of private meetings and public meetings in relation to Government in the Sunshine. The Attorneys focused on discussions. Two members of the same Board may be present at a panel such as a candidate forum, and have a dialogue, but there is a fine line where the discussions may merge. The other issue is the monthly meetings of a community organization. Mr. Macbeth cautioned Board members that they may be criminally prosecuted for crossing the line with Sunshine issues. The minute that two members start discussing an issue, there is a violation. He suggested that when two members are present at one of these meetings, one should leave, as the appearance should be avoided. The only way two members may hold a discussion is if it is publically noticed as a Board of County Commission meeting, with the Clerk's representative present to take minutes.

E. 10:00 a.m. Volunteer recognition and resolution

The Chair read a Resolution into the record, recognizing National Volunteer Week, April 17-21, 2000. The Chair announced 48 organizations to be commended for their faithful service to the County. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt a Resolution in affirmation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 157. A small ceremony was held in the lobby of the Government Center in their honor.

F. 10:30 a.m. Ceremony in Courthouse rotunda for National Register of Historic Places

Reconvene 11:00 a.m.

Carl Cool continued the discussion on the Sunshine briefing. Commissioner Bullard suggested that when a request is received for the attendance of the Commission, that staff notify the party that the policy of the Board is for one Commissioner to attend the meeting. Commissioner Maxcy supported that idea, with education to the public for that position.

G. County Administrator:

1. Request for funding Lake Placid flagpole

Carl Cool presented the funding request for beautification of flagpole from Joel Lowman, Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce. Bert Harris, representing the Lake Placid Chamber, spoke in favor of the request. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the request and a budget amendment with funding to come from the infrastructure fund. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 189 for comments from Rick Helms, Budget Officer.

2. Budget amendment 99-00-171

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve budget amendment 99-00-171, for the Court Reporter and County Criminal account to come out of the Contingency Fund. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Request for drainage easement maintenance, Sebring Falls Subdivision

Carl Cool presented request of Sebring Falls residents for drainage easement maintenance. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the County take over for maintenance, the twenty (20) foot drainage easement along lots 1 through 46, as recorded in Plat Book 11, Page 24, with the understanding that the County will not be responsible for any irrigation systems or any structures within the easement. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 36 Page 190 for copy of information.

4. Report on Solid Waste Franchise bids

Carl Cool presented a report on evaluation of bids and recommendations for award of the Franchise Solid Waste Collection Contracts, changes in Landfill Tipping Fees, and reduction in the non-advalem assessment. Reliable Sanitation and Florida Recycling presented the only two bids. Currently they have separate zones for residential collection. Reliable submitted a lower bid but Florida Recycling has agreed to match Reliable's quote. The Commission had recommended that two companies provide the services as they will be competing for the commercial business. One major improvement in the contract is twice-monthly collection of yard waste, instead of the current monthly pickup. The County Administrator advised that maximum charges for commercial customers have not been set. Business negotiations are negotiated through separate contracts. The recommendation of staff is to award Reliable's current area to Reliable Sanitation, labeled zone "A" and award to zone "B," Florida Recycling Services as the lowest bid that was submitted. Mr. Cool also recommended that the charge for dumping at the landfill be increased from \$35.00 a ton to \$45.00, effective October 1, 2000. Approval of that adjustment will not affect the proposed residential charge. He suggested that the tipping fee for horticultural materials be decreased from \$35.00 per ton to \$25.00; the fee for tires be increased from \$60.00 a ton to \$100.00 a ton, and that it remains at \$20.00 per ton for construction and demolition materials. Mr. Cool also recommended that the Board lower the residential assessment rates in the unincorporated areas from \$130.00 to \$125.00.

The County Administrator reported that the County will need to put aside funds for a new garbage liner, which could be needed in two years. The cost is estimated at four million dollars. The Board Attorney suggested that the cost reduction be deferred until after the liner is purchased. He estimated the \$5.00 difference, when spread among all residential customers would generate \$150,000 a year, and the cost reduction could result in an interest savings on the loan the county would have to make to finance purchase of the liner.

Commissioner Bullard commended staff members and the committee for the excellent work product presented. Commissioner Gose stated concerns that we did not accept the low bid, but negotiated with the other company to match the bid. The County Administrator stated that Reliable has agreed in writing to accept both zones with the low bid. Ross Macbeth advised that the problem is with the commercial rates, as Reliable's bid was higher than Florida Recycling. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the package as presented as it gives a maximum level of protection to residential as well as commercial and keeps both haulers in the zones they are familiar with and lowers the rates. The consensus of the Board was to bring back the package for a decision on May 2, 2000. Clayton Womer spoke in favor of keeping the rates as they exist. See Landfill file for copy.

5. Budget priorities worksheet presentation

Rick Helms presented a budget policy for the Board to review and note any additions or corrections. Commissioner Bullard presented minor changes to the document. Staff requested the Board complete and bring back next week. See SMB 36 Page 191.

6. Resolution to declare local state of fire danger

Commissioner Bullard recommended that the resolution should state *fire danger* in the document. The County Administrator noted that the resolution will be revised subject to the Board Attorney’s approval. The consensus of the Board was to place the Resolution back on the Consent agenda for approval.

7. Report on conference call

Mr. Cool reported on a conference call regarding the Water Supply Authority. The call was with the County Managers of Polk and Hardee Counties, and staff members. The conclusion of the phone call was that neither Polk nor Hardee felt that there was an advantage to having a Water Supply Authority. All the members are recommending that the three counties meet and discuss this issue. Polk County has offered to host that meeting. Mr. Cool will respond back with a time of the meeting.

8. Consent agenda Fire Truck question

Richard Conover presented questions regarding why this truck was not presented when other properties were accepted into the inventory. Tim Eures stated that the situation was that we assumed equipment from the Sebring Airport Authority, not the Sebring Airport VFD. The Sebring Airport VFD membership are now members of the Lorida Fire Department. There were two different entities involved. This item to be placed back on the Consent agenda.

H. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as amended:

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits

Law Library	389.00
General	527,334.54
County Transportation Trust	46,370.94
E911 Operations	13,892.77
Conservation Trust	426.63
Intergovt Radio Communication	350.00
Fl Boating Improvement	1,048.00
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	661,873.43
Community Development Block	2,250.00
Affordable Housing Assistance	51,710.51
Special Law Enforcement	5,600.99
Solid Waste	45,480.18
Placid Utilities	9,373.15
Highway Park Utility	1,650.65
Risk Retention Fund	2,880.37

- Employee Benefit 51,629.91
Flexible Benefit Trust 2,000.00
2. Approval of minutes of 3-28-00 and 4-4-00 meetings
 3. Accept into record - March Monthly Report
 4. Approval of resolution to declare local state of fire danger. See Res. Book 13 Page 158.
 5. Approval of Addendum XI to Conceptual Approval Agreement (Fla. Communities Trust) See SMB 36 Page 192.
 6. Approval to donate surplus computer (VFD #455) to the local amateur radio (ARES/RACES) group. See SMB 36 Page 193.
 7. Approval of Change orders nos. 4-6, Sebring Library expansion with E.O. Koch Construction. See Library file for copy.
 8. Approval of Release of Notice of Nuisance, case #99899-00 (Jacquelyn Reitz, Lake Haven Estates). See Lake Haven Estates file.
 9. Approval to execute resolution on Florida World War II Veterans Memorial. See Res. Book 13 Page 159.
 10. Approval to accept donated 1970 Ford fire truck from the Sebring Airport VFD. See SMB 36 Page 194.
 11. Approval to waive SHIP Housing Assistance Plan guideline for Mrs. Edna Butler. See SHIP file.
 12. Approval to execute resolution requested by Habitat for Humanity for Community Contribution Tax Credit Program. See Res. Book 13 Page 160.
 13. Approval of extension of The Nature Conservancy position for CARL land acquisition. See Nature Conservancy file.
 14. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-172(Lincoln Heights Playground equipment) and 99-00-176 (Human Services OPS).
 15. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-180 (Powerline Road) 99-00-181(Sebring Parkway) and 99-00-183(Highlands County Watershed Video). See Res. Book 13 Page 161.
 16. Approval to execute cost statements and Amendment IV to Florida Communities Trust grant. See SMB 36 Page 195.
 17. Approval of Jack Richie to move into the Water Advisory Committee open alternate position. See SMB 36 Page 196.
 18. Approval of unsafe building procedure for Housing Code. See CDBG file for copy.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Richard Conover presented questions to the Board on the following:

Awnings for the courthouse. Mr. Cool advised that a purchase order has been issued.

Vendor for soft drinks and snacks at the Government Center. The General Services Director will be sending a memo to Mr. Conover regarding this subject.

Jim Cash thanked the Board for their participation at the Friends of the Library luncheon.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard presented comments regarding the accident at the Tax Collector’s office in Lake Placid. Commissioner Stokes appraised the Board of recent legislation regarding the proposed reduction to the intangible tax. Rick Helms, Budget Officer, explained that the reduction ranges from 30 to 50% to the County Revenue Sharing Program that provides funds for local services to the County. He suggested that the Chairperson send a letter of support to the legislators to provide an alternative means of funding. The consensus of the Board was to redraft the document, with minor changes as requested by Commissioner Bullard, and send to the local delegation and the committee, so that it will be available when they go to the floor. See SMB 36 Page 197 for copy.

Commissioner Gose presented comments regarding the Landfill Franchise.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, MAY 2, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

The Chairman announced that the former Supervisor of Elections, Jimmy Whitehouse passed away. The service was held last Friday. Mr. Whitehouse held that position for more than 25 years. Donations are being accepted to place a memorial oak tree on the Government Center property in his memory. Anyone wishing to donate, please contact Carl Cool or Charles Bryan.

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a brief moment of silence and a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard, with a special tribute to former Supervisor of Elections, Jimmy Whitehouse. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending May 2, 2000 with 307 inmates, 115 felonies, 53 misdemeanors, 14 violations of probations, 179 persons currently working in a maintenance program and 58 persons on pretrial release.

- B. Clerk**

L.E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts, presented brief announcements as follows:

- *National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 4, 2000 at 11:00 a.m. on the Courthouse Lawn*
- *Peace Officers Memorial Day Ceremony May 15, 2000 at 9:00 a.m.*

- C. Upcoming meetings:**

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. The fourth annual *Adopt - a - Leader prayer breakfast* is being held Thursday, May 4, 2000 at 7:00 a.m. at Highlands Ridge Golf Resort.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to set the action agenda as amended:

- Add request from the Sheriff's Department for approval of funds from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund with budget amendment as item number 6.
- Add Budget Amendment number 99-00-203, Sheriff's Detention and Correction as item number 7 under the County Administrator.
- Appointment to the CRA Board as Item number 8 under the County Administrator.
- Add Small Assistance Road Program under the County Engineer.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Mike Carter, NCT Group: Audit presentation

Dan Dorrell, Partner, of the NCT Group CPA’s introduced members of their firm, Mike Carter, Audit Partner and Rene’ Green, Manager of the County Audit. Mr. Dorrell stated that their audit report reflected an unqualified opinion (clean opinion) on the County’s financial statements. He stated that this is largely due to Mike Eastman and staff. Mike Carter, Audit Partner, reviewed the Balance Sheet, Governmental Fund Types, Revenue and Expenditures for the years ended September 30, 1999 and 1998. Mr. Carter noted a major change in financial statement reporting that will become effective in 2003, that requires the County to record infrastructure on the books. In the past all the roads, bridges, curbs, and sidewalks, were listed as expenditures. It was not recorded on the fixed asset list. In addition to that, within four years after the effective date, staff must perform a retroactive look at infrastructure back to 1980. This will be a substantial amount of work by the Finance and Accounting Department. Mike Eastman stated that it was a major change but, overall he thought it was a good idea.

Audit highlights included the following:

- The County’s 1999 assets were \$105.8 million, an increase of \$3.7 million from 1998.
- Governmental Fund Type Revenues increased from \$49.7 million in 1998 to \$50.8 million in 1999.
- General Fund - Fund Balance of \$4,161,839 will only fund 1.3 month’s expenditures. They recommend at least two months.
- The County’s landfill net income was listed at \$352,000.
- Approximately \$2 million was used to pay off long-term debt in 1999.

The budget has expanded each year. In 1990 the expenditures were listed at \$30 million, and in 1999, they were \$50.3 million. However, after adjusting for CPI, expenditures have remained approximately \$37 million from 1992 through 1999. See Audit file for copy of information.

B. County Engineer: DOT agreements and resolution on crosswalk at US 27 and Sparrow Drive

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented the Florida Department of Transportation Traffic Operations Agreements and Resolution for the installation of pedestrian features and crosswalks at the intersection of US 27 and Sparrow Avenue. The Board Attorney has reviewed and approved the documents. This request was presented by the Sheriff’s Department and the expense of approximately \$10,000 will be reimbursed by DOT. Commissioner Bullard noted a correction in the document to read Sparrow Avenue instead of Drive. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the Agreements and adopt Resolution for the project with correction. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 166.

1. SMALL COUNTY ROAD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The County Engineer presented the following projects that have been selected for the Small County Road Assistance Program, and are prioritized in order of importance:

Priority	Location	Type of Project
1	CR 17 (Kenilworth Boulevard) from	Resurfacing/Paved

	CR 17A (Highlands Avenue) to Airport Road (5.01 Miles)	Shoulders
2	CR 17 from US 27 North to Tauchens Road (3.64 Miles)	Resurfacing/Paved Shoulders
3	Old State Road 8 from State Road 70 to the South (8.88 Miles)	Resurfacing/Paved Shoulders
4	CR 17A (Memorial Drive/Highlands Avenue) From Fairmount Drive North to SR 17 (5.25 Miles)	Resurfacing/Paved Shoulders
5	CR 17A (Highlands Avenue) from Arbuckle Creek Road South to Commerce Avenue (2.24 Miles)	Resurfacing/Paved Shoulders

The Board discussed the Old State Road 8 project and the problem with raising the road. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the prioritized list of Small County Road Assistance Program candidates for submittal to the Florida Department of Transportation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 1.

C. Board Attorney - update on Superfund Site

Mr. Macbeth stated that the Board has provided approximately \$15,000 toward the settlement of the Superfund Site. The settlement agreement has been fully executed and the check has been delivered to the Justice Department/ DEP for the Groups share. Other groups joined and smaller parties contributed to the fund. This created an excess in the fund and the Board will be receiving a refund.

D. County Administrator

1. Approval of Budget Amendment 99-00-188

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve budget amendment 99-00-188 to correct the Workers Comp balance in the Carpentry Shop budgetary expenditures that was shorted during the budget process. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Recommendation on Bid Tabulations on Courthouse parking

Commissioner Flowers stated a conflict with the low bidder APAC of Florida (MacAsphalt) on the project. His company is retained by APAC for a mowing contract at the Avon Park office. Mr. Macbeth advised that he may chair the meeting and take part in the discussion, but must abstain on the vote.

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented a revised recommendation on the bids received by the City of Sebring on the South Commerce Streetscape project. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve recommendations of the County Administrator to accept the revised bid in the amount of \$39,500, and a budget amendment with the funds to come from the sales tax. Upon roll call, all

Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Flowers, who abstained and entered into the record a memorandum of voting conflict, to become a part of the minutes. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 2.

3. Request to assist Golf Hammock Property Owners Association in ditch clean out

The County Administrator presented request from the Golf Hammock Property Owners Association for assistance in cleaning out a ditch on the eastern edge of Golf Hammock for a one time only, for an approximate cost of \$4,300. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to assist the Golf Hammock Property Owners Association in cleaning out the ditch, providing that the Property Owners Association will secure all of the landowners' approval and agree to maintain the ditch afterwards. Ross Macbeth stated that he has represented the Property Owners in the past. He also stated concern that these easements may not be public easements. If this is the case, then the Board will have to make some additional findings of public purpose and necessity. The motion was amended to add, subject to acquiring all the public easements. The Chair opened the floor for public input. Gabriel Read stated concerns that the County should develop a policy for easements. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 3.

4. Recommendations on Solid Waste bids and tipping fees

The County Administrator presented the recommendation of staff to award Reliable's current area to Reliable Sanitation, labeled zone "A" and award to zone "B," Florida Recycling Services as the lowest bid that was submitted. Mr. Cool also recommended that the Board adopt the tipping fees at the landfill with the increase from \$35.00 a ton to \$45.00, effective October 1, 2000. He suggested that the tipping fee for horticultural materials be decreased from \$35.00 per ton to \$25.00; the fee for tires be increased from \$60.00 a ton to \$100.00 a ton, and it remain at \$20.00 per ton for construction and demolition materials. Mr. Cool also recommended that the Board set the residential rate for garbage collection. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, that franchises be awarded to Reliable Sanitation, Inc. for zone "A" at their low bid price of \$105.96 and to Florida Recycling Services, Inc. for zone "B" at the agreed price of \$117.96. In addition, that the Board adopt the maximum commercial rates as contained in the packet, and adjust the landfill tipping fees as indicated in table 6, and the assessment remains at \$130.00 per residential unit. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Bert Harris, Attorney representing Reliable Sanitation, spoke in favor of his client being awarded both franchises, as he felt that Reliable submitted the lowest countywide bid. Carl Cool and Ross Macbeth stated that Florida Recycling's bid was the lowest. Mr. Cool explained that bid documents made it clear that the Commission wanted two haulers serving the county. They have exclusive residential coverage areas. Both companies can solicit commercial business, since that is where the profit is. Having two companies ensures competition. Staff is recommending two companies. Support for that explanation came from Commissioner Stokes and General Services Director Jed Secory. Commissioner Gose stated that he thought that the Board would be willing to accept one hauler. Commissioner Bullard stated that staff's initial intention was to keep the two haulers, but at the end he decided to ask that we entertain an alternate bid, just to see what would happen if the company bid the total package to see if it would come in substantially lower than the two parts. He apologized for that, as it as created confusion.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Lee Cullens, representing Reliable Sanitation, explained the alternate bid. Ray Napper, spoke in favor of Reliable Sanitation being awarded the exclusive bid and in opposition to negotiating the bid. Charles Wilson, representing Florida Recycling, explained comments presented by Ray

Napper and commended staff for their work with the bid process. Jed Secory, General Services Director, explained the bid process. Clayton Womer spoke in favor of awarding the contracts to the two franchisers. Ross Macbeth reminded the Board that the rates that are being proposed will require the adoption of a Resolution. Also, if the Board awards the contract to one bidder, changes will be required to the solid waste ordinance. Commissioner Stokes spoke in favor of staying with the two haulers. Commissioner Flowers stated that he cannot support the motion due to the change in the tipping fees. Mike Eastman stated that, at the request of Commissioner Maxcy, he has reviewed the numbers with Jerry Leszkiewicz, and he agrees with his conclusions, based on his assumptions, which he believes his assumptions were conservative. Upon roll call, Commissioners Bullard, Gose, and Stokes voted aye. Commissioners Maxcy and Flowers voted nay. Motion carried. See Landfill file for copy.

Recess 10:30 - 10:40 a.m.

5. Presentation of proposed Trails Plan for Highlands County

Meridith Obrien and Dan Andrews, RPAC, presented the subcommittee’s proposed Green Way trails plan for Highlands County. The next step will be to present the plan to the various departments and cities for their input and bring back to the County for possible adoption. See SMB 37 Page 4.

6. Request approval expenditure of funds from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund

Carl Cool presented the request for funds in the amount of \$16,096.63 for the purchase of specialized equipment to enhance the capabilities of the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force in the enforcement of narcotics violations. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the expenditure from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund with a budget amendment to move the funds from Fund 170 to the Sheriff’s Office for Capitol outlay expenditure. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 5.

7. Sheriff - Approval of Budget Amendment 99-00-203

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve Budget Amendment 99-00-203 to transfer of funds from the Sheriff’s Contingency Fund into the Sheriff’s Operating Budget. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

8. Appointment to the CRA Board

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to reappoint Mr. Will S. Randall and Mrs. Ellene E. Fields to the Community Redevelopment Agency, in accordance with Resolution 96-110. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 6.

E. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Consent agenda as amended:

- 1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits**
- Law Library 731.79**
- General 1,484,096.98**

County Transportation	65,489.83
E911 Operations	195,812.44
Intergovt Radio Communication	501.23
Law Enforcement Education	5318.90
Local Govt Infra Surtax	376,128.95
Fl Boating Improvement	782.50
Community Development Block	92,123.56
Affordable Housing Assistance	50,855.16
Special Law Enforcement	1,088.11
Solid Waste	20,473.76
Placid Utilities	6,201.77
Highway Park Utility	131.95
Risk Retention Fund	341.62
Employee Benefit	69,516.49

2. Approval of minutes of 04-11-00 and 04-18-00
3. Approval of John Clark as the alternate voting member representing the City of Sebring/ Margie Rhoades and John Shoop will remain as the primary voting members on the Recreation/Parks Committee. See SMB 37 Page 7.
4. Approval to declare local state of fire danger. See Res. Book 13 Page 167.
5. Approval to set public hearing on June 27, 2000 for consideration of non ad valorem assessment for Vantage Pointe II Special Benefit District. See SMB 37 Page 8.
6. Approval to record utility easements from Florida Hospital. See SMB 37 Page 9.
7. Approval of Consultant Service Agreement for Environmental Compliance Audit from Chastain-Skillman for the three entities. See SMB 37 Page 10.
8. Approval of extension for FRDAP grant no. F99084 - Lockett Estate. See FRDAP file.
9. Approval to trade in 1991 Chevrolet Corsica vehicle for a replacement for the County Administrator. See SMB 37 Page 11.
10. Approval of Small County Road Assistance Program amendment, project 40775115801. See Res. Book 13 Page 168.
11. Approval to begin County surplus disposal process. See SMB 37 Page 12.
12. Approval of Budget Amendments 99-00-191(SHIP) 99-00-192(R&B mowing crews) 99-00-193 (cover increase in Appeals cases) 99-00-197 (equipping the new EOC) 99-00-199 (Highway Safety Department). See SMB 37 Page 13.
13. Approval of SHIP Satisfaction of Mortgage (Tresa Ann Reed). See SMB 37 Page 14.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried

5. **CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:**

- Ray Napper explained to the Commission how to perform a route audit with documentation from the Finance Office, without following the garbage truck.

- John T. Williams spoke in opposition to the Home Depot Grant.
- Michael Carr asked that special attention be given to the entry level positions at budget time when considering the pay raises.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard: Emergency request for Transportation Disadvantaged Program in Highlands County, Florida

This request was presented as an emergency effort to meet the transportation demand for the citizens of the County. Mr. Bullard stated that a critical shortage of funds has necessitated denying essential medical trips for many residents for some time. The budget has been over spent an average of \$2,700 per month, leaving \$10,000 of operating capital for the months of May and June, *a critical funding* shortage. The Highlands County Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board requests that the Commission contribute funds in the amount of \$10,000. This will enable the system to provide between 300 and 600 trips for the months of May and June and help keep the level of current service without denying life-sustaining medical transport.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the request for funding in the amount of \$ 10,000 for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program and a budget amendment to come from the Contingency Fund. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ray Napper spoke in favor of the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 15.

Commissioner Bullard presented a follow up report on the possible utilization of land in Lake Placid off of 621 for an airfield for electronically controlled airplanes. They are moving forward with pursuing cost. The Town of Lake Placid has given their endorsement to the concept. He will bring back to the Board further information.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD, MAY 9, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M. in the Board of County Commission Agri-Civic Center Auditorium, 4509 George Boulevard, Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers - Chairman Highlands County Commission
C. Guy Maxcy - Highlands County Commissioner
Edgar E Stokes - Highlands County Commissioner
Bob Bullard - Highlands County Commissioner
James L. Gose - Highlands County Commissioner
Bob Allen - DeSoto County Commissioner & FHREDI Chair
Jeff Mechlin - FHREDI Board member
Carl Cool - County Administrator
Ross Macbeth - Board Attorney
Betty Neale - Executive Director
Mike Eastman - Accounting and Finance Director
Louise Graham - Deputy Clerk

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner David Flowers. The Pledge of Allegiance was also led by the Chair.

3. **Upcoming County meetings**

The Chair read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **Workshop with FHREDI on Pearce Homestead**

The County Administrator presented the Proof of Publication of the advertised meeting into the record. See SMB 37 Page 16. Chair David Flowers advised that this is a fact-finding workshop to discuss the Pearce Homestead. He reassured residents that there are no plans to spend \$17 million to turn the Pearce Homestead Estate into a major tourist attraction. There are plans for the historic home-site of one of Florida's most well known and influential women. Carl Cool presented a brief overview of FHREDI as follows:

- Memorandum of Agreement between the South Florida Water Management District and Highlands County dated 2/24/97.
- Agreement with Highlands County and FHREDI dated March 17, 1998
- Grants Summary
- Lease with Option to Purchase, Highlands County and SFWMD dated 5/22/97.
- Grazing Lease, Highlands County and Sumner & Larson dated 12/16/97.
- Proposed Master Plan - Project Overview Elements with map and summary of costs.
- FHREDI letter to the Board of County Commissioners, requesting that Highlands County assume the leadership role dated 10/15/99.
- County letter to FHREDI on transition approach dated 12/3/99.

See FHREDI file for copy.

Consultants, Roy and Pat Ashton, created the master plan for FHREDI. It is a guideline for development at the

homestead. The master plan for the estate consists of three phases and would take several years to complete. Most of the proposed improvements are on the 600- acre section of the estate. The first phase would see the improvements to existing facilities such as the home itself and a schoolhouse. The second and third phases would include a museum, “eco-lodge” dude ranch, conference center, and the southern satellite of the new Florida Agriculture Museum. Commissioner Maxcy wanted to know what the down side of the plan is. Roy Ashton stated that the down side could be that we lose site of the economic benefit or the educational benefit.

John Morgan, Regional Manager of South Florida Water Management District, stated that he felt comfortable recommending that the portion of land outside the flood plain be given to the county. He also spoke of the downside of losing the property for the prehistoric value. The main concern is the flood plain.

Commissioner Bullard stated that the County, who is leasing the homestead from the Water Management District, needs to decide if they want to be the lead agency for the property. They have to consider the down side of pursuing the challenge, the risk of taxpayers money, and the potential for hiring staff. Bob Allen, Chair of the FHREDI, stated that we have an agreement with FHREDI, a six-county regional economic development organization, to manage the homestead. In November he wrote the Highlands Commission asking the county to assume that role. Allen stressed that FHREDI isn’t walking away from the project. The only staff member, Executive Director Betty Neale, needs to be addressing issues in other member counties.

The Commission discussed ownership of the 395 acres. The property has about two miles of frontage on the Kissimmee River and contains all of the buildings, including the longtime home of the late Edna Pearce Lockett. The members also discussed ownership of the 600 acres that the county is subleasing from the water management district, and is finishing the second year of a five-year lease-option. Morgan stated that he would not oppose recommending the lease-option be extended by a year or two. However, the district could use the \$950,000 it is asking for that property, to use with the cleanup of the Everglades. The county has the \$950,000 in the 2001-02 capital improvements program.

Commissioner Flowers suggested the Board consider the possibility of entering into a public-private partnership to develop the estate. He wondered if any private investors have expressed an interest in becoming involved with the property. Bob Allen advised that FHREDI has not pursued that possibility at this time, but he is hoping that there will be some interested parties. Commissioner Gose spoke in favor of the county purchasing the property for the economics of it for future investment. He stated that this plan is just a plan. It is a starting point. FHREDI did not want to issue an RFQ or an RFP until a master plan was completed with a new road map. Commissioner Stokes stated that it could be a big regional impact to the area, offering educational programs. Commissioner Maxcy stated concerns regarding the county’s liability, should a developer start work at the estate and go bankrupt. Roy Ashton stated that their recommendation is that the county be the landlord in the relationship.

The Chair opened the floor for public input. Roy Whitton, a retired colonel in the U.S. Air Force, offered an alternate use for 200-400 acres of the 600 acres. *He recommended a national veteran’s cemetery.* He said that Bushnell will be full in 15 years and that a search is under way for a new site. Dr. Spiegel speaking for himself, stated concern that private sector dollars are being used. Jim Fitch, Director of the Kississmee Valley Archeology, spoke in favor of the development, using education as a primary component, with recreation as an ingredient. He presented a painting of the historic building as prepared by Mr. Butler. Dr. Fred Keiber, president of the Chamber of Commerce, presented a resolution in favor of the plan. Ray Royce, representing the CVB, stated support of the project. Joel Loewman, representing the Chamber of Lake Placid, stated support for FHREDI. Jeff Mechlin, Board member, agreed that the decision is difficult. He asked that the Board keep a positive approach to the project. Betty Neale, executive director, presented closing comments and

asked direction regarding the DAR grant cycle deadline. The Chair advised that this will be discussed at next Tuesday's regular meeting for action.

In closing the Chairman asked that Board members consider issues regarding the future impact to the county budget, fire, safety, and infrastructure along with other public issues. The consensus was to continue with more workshops.

Bob Allen presented a prepared statement into the record to become a part of the record.

In 1991, at Edna Pearce Lockett's death, portions of her land were sold by the estate to South Florida Water Management District for the restoration of the Kissimmee River. At that time the District agreed to accept the donation of the homestead property, the house and surrounding property, totaling 395 acres. In 1995, the District authorized FHREDI to present the property as a site for the Florida Agricultural Museum. The site was selected as the southern location for the Museum. In 1997, the District leased the homestead property to Highlands County and entered into a Lease Purchase Option Agreement with them for the contiguous acres. Highlands County selected FHREDI to manage the development of the property in August 1997. The Contractual Agreement was executed in March 1998. The County at that time, leased the 600 acres for cattle grazing. Staff has done an outstanding job of securing grants. The first grant application submitted August 31, 1997 was approved and provided for the required archaeological survey and architectural survey of the historical structures which produced the Preservation Plan by Janus Research. A Business Plan funded by the Florida Agricultural Museum Trustees was completed in September 1997. A \$2,000 grant awarded under the Sustainable Lake Okeechobee Initiative, has funded the Conceptual Master Plan, a major requirement to the Agreement between the District and Highlands County. Funds for this grant will also provide for the installation of a high energy A/C system for the main house. Two FRDAP Grants have been approved providing recreational amenities for the properties. A \$46,000 Bureau of Historic Resources Grant is paying for the restoration of the boat house, gazebo and wrap around porch. During the 2000 Legislative Session, a Special Category Grant in the amount of \$268,435 submitted was approved and will provide for the restoration of the main house and foreman's house. In April, a \$50,000 grant was approved, which will be implemented with the support of the DAR. The living room will be the Welcome Center and Regional History Room; Edna's office will be a project of the DAR focusing on her adult years as an educator, large cattle rancher and member of the Florida Legislature. The barn and school house, both identified historically significant, are structures still to be restored. Also, it is recommended by Janus Research that additional archaeological survey work be undertaken.

FHREDI in 1997, formed a corporation, Florida's Freshwater Frontier, as an economic development initiative, to focus on Ecotourism/Heritage Tourism. The geographic area of Florida's Freshwater Frontier expands to include the communities on the eastern rim of Lake Okeechobee and Immokalee.

Progress made is significant. This project as a regional project has gained the attention and support of state agencies which is demonstrated by the successful record in seeking grants. However, the implementation now becomes significant as we move forward. FHREDI does not have the financial capability to continue the project - currently we have one staff person and rely on grants and contractual agreements to support annual county dues of just over \$10,000 for the regional work. It is not the intent of FHREDI to "walk from the project." Development of this property to its greatest potential and a regional destination, continues to be a priority. This project is included in our Strategic Plans and funds are allocated to the project in the current budgets. It is suggested that the ground work has been accomplished with a strong foundation laid for future development which should appropriately be determined by Highlands County. The Conceptual Master Plan proposed direction that may be considered but ultimately the future of this project rests with the Board of County Commissioners. Be assured of FHREDI's commitment to the project and of our continued support within our

limitations.

The workshop adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

5. ACTION

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve payment of employee benefits in the amount of \$77,765.38. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval to execute Resolution extending the local state of fire danger

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Resolution extending the local state of fire danger. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 13 Page 169.

C. County Engineer: Approval of Change Order Number 2 - Sebring International Raceway Hotel

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve Change Order Number 2 - Sebring International Raceway Hotel with E.O. Koch Construction Company to install new culvert pipe at the Hancor Road crossing, survey, and permit cost, per proposal in the amount of \$27,720.00 and additional canal cleaning at \$47,383.00. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, MAY 16, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers

Bob Jamison

C. Guy Maxcy

Carl Cool

Edgar E Stokes

J Ross Macbeth

Bob Bullard

Louise Graham

Commissioner James Gose was not present for the meeting.

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Sheriff:

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending May 16, 2000. The Farm Report was also given for the month of April.

B. Clerk

No report presented.

C. Upcoming meetings:

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action Agenda as revised:

- Recommendation on FHREDI Grant direction as item number 7 under the County Administrator.
- Remove item number 13 from the Consent Agenda and place as item number 8 under the County Administrator.
- Consent Agenda number 9-approval of Resolutions and budget amendments #99-00-219 and 221 through 223. Add budget amendment #99-00-224 at the request of Commissioner Bullard.
- Commissioner Bullard also requested that we pull item number 14 (Consulting Services Authorization) for discussion and place under Carl Cool as item number 9.
- Remove item number 12 and place under the County Administrator as item number 10.
- Remove item number 8-budget amendment 99-00-226 to be placed under the County Administrator as item number 11.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Commissioner Flowers: Proclamation on "Civility Month"

Ross Macbeth explained the need for public awareness of Civility information, and read the Proclamation into the record. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Proclamation, proclaiming the month of May as *Civility Month in Highlands County*, and urging the adoption of a pledge of civility by all citizens in the county. The Chair also presented a plaque that came from the City, County, and Local Government section of the Florida Bar and requested that it be placed in the Boardroom to refer to at times. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 1.

B. Solid Waste Management Director: Approval to waive bid procedures and award

contract

Jerry Leszkiewicz, Solid Waste Director, presented a request to bypass procurement procedures to contract for relocation of the truck scale from Avon Park to the Solid Waste Management Center for construction to the existing scale house building to accommodate inbound and outbound scales. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to waive the procedures for Project No. 99049 on an emergency basis due to the non-bid situation that occurred and the need to move forward with construction before the rainy season. The Board grants the Purchasing Department approval to award a contract based on a least two written fixed price proposals received from scale vendors provided that the proposed fixed price is within the approved project budget. Gabriel Read asked that staff explore the process of eliminating expensive change orders. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 17.

C. Board Attorney

No report presented.

D. County Administrator:**1. Approval of resolution providing for procedures for administrative review of fractional acreage**

Carl Cool explained the need for providing procedures for review of fractional acreage. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution, pertaining to fractional acreage in certain sections within the county. In applying the five (5) acre parcel size requirements of the Highlands County Comprehensive Plan and the Highlands County Zoning Regulations in those known sections of land in Highlands County, having less than 640 acres, any parcel which is at least 1/128th of an area of the established government section of land within which it is located and is at least four (4) acres in size shall be deemed to be a five (5) acre parcel. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 2.

2. Approval of SAVE Committee recommendation

Carl Cool reported that the SAVE Committee met on May 1, 2000 and considered a submission by the Road & Bridge Department. The Rucks's Dairy Bridge project was originally scheduled for repairs in the amount of \$120,713.12 that included materials, equipment, labor, and the cost of constructing a detour. Due to the plan developed by the Road & Bridge employees, the repair was completed at a cost of \$54,541.53 and used materials on the site to construct the detour required. The water management district even asked that the detour road be left in place for access to the canal and control structures for maintenance purposes. The SAVE Committee voted to award the maximum 10% of the savings on the project that is allowed under the SAVE Program. The savings totaled \$66,171.59 and the award amount is \$6,617.16 to be split among the 28 participants in the project. This amounts to \$236.32 per person. The Committee recognized the Rucks's Dairy Bridge project as an excellent example of a SAVE Program award.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt the recommendation of the SAVE Committee, and the award of \$6,617.16 be divided equally among the participants in the Ruck's Dairy Bridge repair and that the project be recognized as an excellent example of the SAVE Program criteria. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 18.

3. Approval of Budget Amendment 99-00-220

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to move funds from the Reserve for Contingency Account into the Emergency Management Cost Center (3991) in the amount of \$25,213.00 in order to cover negative balance as well as covering overtime and OPS work for the dispatch office for the remainder of the fiscal year. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

4. Request for lights at SFCC ballfield

The County Administrator presented a request from South Florida Community College for support with lighting of the baseball field to allow night games. The cost of lighting the field is estimated at \$200,000. If Highlands County could provide one-quarter of the cost, \$50,000 out of the Recreation Infrastructure, the College could leverage that amount through the state matching program to achieve the needed funds. Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor and made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the request with funds to

come from the recreation infrastructure. Rick Hitt, SFCC Coach, spoke in favor of the motion to enhance the facility and provide opportunities not only for the baseball but for the youth in the County. Commissioner Bullard reported that this proposal did go before the Recreation and Parks Committee, but not in this specific form. It was presented to them seeking the endorsement of the Committee requesting for a \$200,000 project and did not receive a favorable recommendation. He also asked that this request be placed within the normal budget cycle. Rick Hitt stated that if SFCC receives the money in October, they would not miss the deadline. Dr. Don Applequist, representing SFCC Foundation, stated that the match must be in hand by October 30, 2000 in order to apply for year 2001. Commissioner Stokes spoke in support of the project. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to table the motion and allow this request to go back before the Recreation Committee for their recommendation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 19.

5. Approval of contract for architectural portion of Sun 'n Lakes Fire Station Design Build

Ross Macbeth requested that this item be postponed for additional information.

6. Response from Department of Community Affairs concerning Wolf Creek / Vizcaya Lakes

Mr. Cool presented the response from the Department to honor the Commission's request to consider the cumulative impacts of both developments during its review of the proposed comprehensive plan amendments for Wolf Creek (a.k.a. Osprey Lakes) and Vizcaya Lakes. The Department stated that it is customary for the Department to look at the cumulative impacts of land use plan amendments, especially if the amendments impact the same facilities and resources. See SMB 37 Page 20.

Break 10:00 - 1010 a.m.

7. Recommendation on FHREDI Grant direction

The County Administrator presented recommendation that the Board of County Commissioners request that FHREDI apply for the Special Category Grant on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County. This will allow the grant to finish the buildings on the site, and meet the required May 31, 2000 deadline. At the same time, we will be moving in the direction suggested by FHREDI, whereby the County will be taking more of a leadership roll on the site. Commissioner Stokes questioned the amount of cash match for the grant. Betty Neale, executive director, explained the special category grants, and advised that she can come up with the local share cost without having to show any cash with the previous commitments. Commissioner Stokes wondered if what has been done at the homestead builds points for getting future grants. Ms. Neale stated that everything that has been accomplished lends support for the project with the state. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of applying for the grants to stop the deterioration and then properly restore these historic significant buildings.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to authorize FHREDI to apply for the grants for the restoration of the remaining historic buildings on the site. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Vaughn Whitesides spoke in favor of the motion. Ray Royce, President of the CVB, presented a letter into the record in favor. Allon Fish, representing the Sebring Chamber of Commerce and the CVB, also presented a letter from the Chamber and spoke of the economic benefit to Highlands County. Clayton Womer spoke in opposition, as these grants are taxpayers' money. Commissioner Maxcy stated that he would prefer that the County own the property rather than the Water Management District. He understands that the South Florida Water Management District has committed to this project and the county should ask for reimbursement for any money spent off of the purchase price of land. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 22.

8. Discussion on Consent Agenda item number 13-Cooperative Funding Agreement with SWFWMD for the Lake Josephine Watershed

Carl Cool explained the agreement as the final step to begin the work on the Lake Josephine Watershed

Assessment Project. This project will investigate causes for water quality declines in Lake Josephine, focusing on nutrient runoff, water stabilization, and changes in the drainage basin around the lake. The County's contribution to this assessment is \$42,500, which is being matched by \$42,500 from the Peace River Basin Board. The consensus of the Board was to place the agreement back on the Consent Agenda for approval. See SMB 37 Page 23

9. Consent Agenda item number 14-consultant service authorization #20 with Chastain Skillman, Inc. for widening of Fairmount Drive

Commissioner Bullard discussed the amount of \$135,292.00 to Chastain Skillman for the design and permitting for the widening of Fairmount Drive. He questioned if staff has recently done an analysis to determine what projects are best to do in house or to hire out to a consultant, and if the County will be better off to expand their engineering department to include more of the consulting projects. The County Administrator advised that he has recommended that the County Engineer, in this years budget application, put together as a budget issue item some additional in-house capabilities. Mr. Cool also spoke of the problems associated with hiring good engineers. He advised that he has reviewed the cost of the project with Ron Cauthen and Ramon Gavarette and the problem is the permitting difficulties where Fairmount Drive intersects the canal, as it is a tributary to Lake Jackson. The water qualities will be a very important issue throughout. We do not have a way to retain water and Chastain Skillman has built in those concerns. It will be a five-lane road in an eighty-foot right of way. They know that it is a tight project. Staff thinks this is a reasonable cost and the county does not have in house capabilities to do the work in the time frame designated. Commissioner Bullard asked that staff perform the in-depth analysis of the Engineering Department. Commissioner Stokes reiterated the same concerns. The consensus of the Board was to place this item back on the Consent Agenda for approval. See SMB 37 Page 24.

10. Consent Agenda item number 12-Approval of non-profit agency request for County surplus items

Richard Conover asked why the list of auction items were given to the non profit agency prior to the list becoming available to the citizens of the County. Jed Secory, General Services Director, explained that there was a small request for the four items, and a county employee had knowledge of these items. Mr. Secory followed the statutes allowing the surplus items to be donated to the Rock of Horeb Pentecostal Church, Inc., a nonprofit agency. The consensus of the Board was to place this item back on the Consent Agenda for approval.

11. Approval of budget amendment 99-00-226.

Richard Conover presented questions regarding a duplication of budget amendment 99-00-197 in equipment for the EOC. The County Administrator explained that it is two different budget amendments, two different cost centers and two different pieces of equipment and both are needed. The consensus of the Board was to place this item back on the Consent Agenda for approval.

E. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended:

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits	
Law Library	46.10
General	720,993.99
County Transportation	39,404.07
E911 Operations	26,512.19
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	1,168,979.35
Community Development Block	2,250.00
Affordable Housing Assistance	15,316.00
Solid Waste	262,596.32

- Placid Utilities 29,718.86
- Highway Park Utility 844.79
- Risk Retention Fund 651.23
- Employee Benefit 66,237.63
- 2. Approval of minutes of 5-2-00 meeting
- 3. Accept into record - April Monthly Report
- 4. Approval of resolution to extend local state of emergency. See Res. Book 14 Page 3.
- 5. Approval of appointment of Mr. Michael Callahan to EMS Advisory Council. See SMB 37 Page 25.
- 6. Approval to enter into the record the Highlands County District School Board audit. See School Board file for copy.
- 7. Approval of waiver of SHIP - HAP rule for Mrs. Arlene Peterson. See SMB 37 Page 26.
- 8. Approval of budget amendments #99-00-205 (court reporting in Juvenile Proceedings) 99-00-217 (reclassify land purchase of Winding Waters) and 99-00-226 (purchase of E911 equipment at the new EOC and computer system that no longer operates). See SMB 37 Page 27.
- 9. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-219 (Sebring Airport Authority), 99-00-221(SHIP) 99-00-222 (SHIP), 99-00-223 (SHIP) and 99-00-224 (purchase of four Automatic External Defibrillators with funds donated from the American Heart Association). See Res. Book 14 Page 4.
- 10. Approval to sell tax certificate 97-7009 (William C. Dailey). See SMB 37 Page 28.
- 11. Approval of final County surplus list for auction. See SMB 37 Page 29.
- 12. Approval of non-profit agency request for County surplus items. See SMB 37 Page 30.
- 13. Approval of Cooperative Funding Agreement with SWFWMD for the Lake Josephine Watershed.
- 14. Approval of consultant service authorization #20 with Chastain Skillman, Inc. for the design and permitting for the widening of Fairmount Drive.
- 15. Approval of change order No. 7 for Sebring Library expansion and renovation with E.O. Koch Construction. See SMB 37 Page 31.
- 16. Approval of Amendment #2 to Health Plan Document. See Employee Benefit file.
- 17. Approval of payment without a Purchase Order for Sky Asset Management. See SMB 37 Page 32.
- 18. Accept into the record the Spring Lake Improvement District Audit 1999. See Spring Lake file for copy.
- 19. Approval of timber sales contract at the Preserve of Sun'n Lakes. See Sun'n Lake file for copy.
- 20. Approval of recording of right of way easement for the construction of Bayview Drive.
- 21. Approval of grant allocation distribution for Sheriff's Office for the Local Law Enforcement Assistance Formula Block Grant program and letter to DCA. See SMB 37 Page 33.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

No citizens slips were received.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard presented an update on the Census. The *census taking* is in the final stages in Highlands County. The Town of Lake Placid is one of less than 9% of the local government entities in the United States to actually exceed the goal set for them by the Census Bureau. Highlands County Census enumerators will be finishing ahead of surrounding counties. He asked that anyone who did not receive a census form or have not been visited by a census taker to call 1-800-471-9424, and they will take the information over the phone.

Commissioner Maxcy read a Resolution into the record in support of Commissioner Rudy Malloy as second vice-president of NACo. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Resolution in support of his candidacy. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairperson Flowers read a Resolution into the record in support of the Governor's Mentioning Initiative effort to recruit Floridians to become volunteer mentors. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution in support. See Res. Book 14 Page 5. Carl Cool commended the county employees that participated in the program.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

**

PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOARD, MAY 23, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by former Commissioner Robert Skipper.

3. **UPCOMING COUNTY MEETINGS**

The County Administrator read the reported meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **Penney Cobb, RCMA: Proclamation "Stand for Children Day"**

Penny Cobb, Program Coordinator for the Redlands Christian Migrant Association, presented a Proclamation into the record in support of a community commitment to improve the quality of children's lives by building safer and healthier communities. Penny stated that on June 1, 2000 the Association will celebrate *Stand for Children Day in Highlands County*, along with hundreds of thousands of other children's advocates across the United States. The Chairperson read the Proclamation into the record. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt a Proclamation declaring June 1, 2000 as *Stand for Children's Day in Highlands County*. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 6.

5. **Public hearing to consider an ordinance regarding handypersons**

Proof of Publication for the public hearing entered into the record. See Proof of Pub Ord Book 2 Page 89. Carl Cool read the captions of the ordinance into the record and suggested changes to the effective date of the ordinance to coincide with the September 30, 2000 occupational license date. Ross Macbeth advised that all affected parties have been notified of the change by county staff.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt an ordinance amending the Handyperson ordinance as presented. The Chair opened the floor for public input. Artie McIntyre, a painter in the county, spoke of problems that existed when he was designated as a *handyperson*. The County Administrator was directed to correct the license mixup with Mr. McIntyre. Gabriel Read stated concerns with the administration of the licenses. The Chairperson reported that these problems will be corrected. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

6. Public hearing to consider a resolution to close a portion of Vaughn Road

Proof of Publication entered into the record. See SMB 37 Page 34. The County Engineer presented a petition to close Vaughn Road to motorized vehicles except for the maintenance of the utility and drainage easement. Ramon Gavarrete read the Resolution into the record. Staff has approved the recommendation. The Board Attorney has also reviewed and approved the documents.

Commissioner Maxcy questioned why pedestrians and non- motorized vehicles may transverse the road when the road will be closed to vehicles. The County Engineer stated that staff will still need to access the road to maintain the ditch. The Board discussed the future plans for the road. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Don Greenhalgh, owner of 30 acres of property in that area, spoke in opposition to closing the road and in favor of replacing the bridge. Robert Skipper and Artie McIntyre spoke in opposition to closing the road. The County Administrator advised that the state does not want to spend money to repair the bridge or replace it, if the county intends to close the road. Commissioner Gose noted that the road is a bargaining tool with the state, and once it is closed that opportunity goes away. Carl Cool felt that the state will be in opposition to replacing the bridge. Commissioner Maxcy asked that a traffic study be conducted. The Chair opened the floor for public input. Don Greenhalgh spoke in favor of postponing the decision. Clayton Womer wondered why the Commissioners would change their opinion on the closing. Robert Skipper stated that there is very little maintenance needed on the road and in favor of keeping it open. Commissioner Gose asked that we wait for a commitment from the state before we close the road. Ross Macbeth advised that the Resolution does not close the road. It limits the access to the road and it still remains a county road. Commissioner Stokes spoke in favor of the state having their input, before a decision is made. Commissioner Bullard was in agreement with postponing the decision for more information. The consensus of the Board was to hold another public hearing with a presentation from the Hammock State Park to see what their ideas are on the road, and to ask DOT to move up their study for input. See SMB 37 Page 35 for copy of information.

7. Public hearing to consider vacation of easement - Spring Lake Village VIII

Proof of Publication and Petition entered into the record by Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer. See SMB 37 Page 36. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt a Resolution vacating the 7.5 foot wide utility easement on the easterly side of Lot 25, Block F, Spring Lake Village VIII, according to the plat as recorded in Plat Book 11, Page 8 and the 7.5 foot wide utility easement on the westerly side of Lot 1, Block E. Spring Lake Village VII, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 15, Page 25, less the northerly 10 foot wide utility easement and less the southerly 15 foot wide utility easement of both referenced lots. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 7.

8. Public hearing to consider purchase of Grady property for jail expansion

Bill Stephenson, Special Projects Director, presented Proof of Publication and proposal to purchase the Willie Grady property for the jail expansion parking. See SMB 37 Page 37. The property is located beside the Pre-Trial Release Office now owned by the county and faces on Eucalyptus Street. The property proposal is listed at 20% above the Property Appraiser's evaluation. This purchase item has been budgeted in the Capital Improvement Plan. Motion by Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the

purchase. Chairperson Flowers and Commissioner Gose spoke in favor of the purchase for the jail expansion. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

9. Public hearing to consider purchase of Hayslip property for jail expansion

Proof of Publication and proposal entered into the record by Bill Stephenson. See SMB 37 Page 38. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the purchase of the Hayslip property for jail expansion in the amount of \$19,300. Mr. Stephenson advised that he agreed to negotiate with the seller for a date on relocation. Commissioner Bullard reported that a person called and asked the Board to consider spending more money on preventing crime than on drug and alcohol abuse programs. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

10. ACTION:

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits 5/23/00 and 5/30/00

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve payment of employee benefits as follows:

Employee Benefits	5/23/00	\$51,503.15
Employee Benefits	5/30/00	\$57,387.37

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval to execute resolution extending the local state of emergency

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Resolution extending the local state of emergency. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 8.

Commissioner Bullard commended Carl Cool on his participation at the Florida Association of Counties Foundation Finance and Budget Seminar.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, JUNE 6, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Whitbeck presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending June 6, 2000.

- B. **Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. The Chair gave special recognition to two Highlands county employees, Allison Carr and Brianna Franke, who graduated from High School.

The Chair announced that the July 4th regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 5th. The Workshop to be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2000 will focus on impact fees and enhanced Code Enforcement.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to set the Action Agenda as revised:
Item F was postponed.

Item E. Board Attorney, add Bus Transportation contract.

Item G. Add Resolutions - Health Facilities Authority under the County Administrator as item number 3.

At the request of Commissioner Bullard, remove Consent Agenda item number 6 and place under the County Administrator for discussion as item number 4.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

- A. **Lee Yates, Lake Placid Jaycees: Request for fireworks at Bishop Park**

Mr. Lee Yates, representing the Lake Placid Jaycees, presented a request to the Board for permission to

use Bishop Park for the July 4th fireworks show. He asked that the fishing pier, swimming area, playground and peninsula be closed at 5:00 p.m. and that sheriff's deputies be stationed in the park to assist with the crowd control. Mr. Yates also requested that the Board waive the Fire Marshall's fee of \$100.00. The Chair advised that the Board cannot give permission for the use of Sheriff's deputies. They must contact that Department. Carl Cool spoke in favor of the request but stated concern to closing the swimming area on July 4th. Mr. Cool stated that if drought conditions worsen to the point that no permits are issued for fireworks, then the show will be canceled. The Parks Department and the Fire Inspector will be present at the show. Earl Pickett from Lake Placid, asked if there will be a fire engine on the scene. Chair Flowers advised that a fire engine from Lake Placid will be present and the Emergency Medical Services will be available.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the requests, subject to the Risk Manager's discretion for liability issues and to waive the fee for insurance, with a posted notification that the park will be closed on that date. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 39.

B. Zoning Supervisor: Appointments to Zoning Board of Adjustment, Planning & Zoning Commission and Local Planning Agency

Gary Lower, Zoning Supervisor, presented recommendations to accept the resignation of Mr. Bill Borgemeister and Mr. Bruce Sherwood from the listed Board, and appoint Mr. Harold Owen as the regular member and two alternates from the listed resumes. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to accept the resignation of Mr. Bill Borgemeister and Mr. Bruce Sherwood. Commissioner Bullard asked that the Chair send a letter thanking the board members for their service. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to move Mr. Harold Owen up to the regular position. The Chair stated concern that Mr. Owen will be absent in the summer and unable to attend meetings, since there is already a problem establishing a quorum. The Commission discussed the membership, and Commissioner Gose withdrew his motion, and Commissioner Maxcy withdrew his second.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to appoint Mr. John Tallent as the regular member. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to appoint Ms. Barbara Stewart as the alternate member. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. The Zoning Supervisor presented the question of dual office holding to the Board Attorney, as Ms. Stewart is a member of the NRAC Board. Mr. Macbeth stated that he will research the matter, but assumed that NRAC was an advisory Board. If it is considered dual office holding, Ms. Stewart can make the decision, which Board she will serve. See SMB 37 for copy of resumes 40.

C. Solid Waste Manager: Replacement of truck destroyed by fire

Mike Singleton, Operations Manager, presented a request to sell the Ford F-150 (LF-35) for salvage and

replace the vehicle that was destroyed by fire with a new Ford F-150, four- wheel drive extended bed pickup truck. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to authorize the sale of LF-35 for salvage or trade-in value and purchase a new Ford F-150 four- wheel drive pickup truck for \$20,000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 41.

D. Director of Compliance and Internal Audit: Purchase of County-owned phone switch

Bob Jamison, Director, Compliance and Internal Audit, as County-Com Project Manager, presented recommendations for purchase of a County owned Phone Switch and Phones. Staff has completed the process to reduce proposed costs, satisfy phone requirements, and meet the desired economic criteria. The Computer Acquisition Committee has approved the recommendation to proceed with Board approval to purchase the equipment. Commissioner Maxcy spoke in opposition to the \$50,000 contingency for any problem wiring, changes, or additional training. Commissioner Gose suggested a 10% contingency. Commissioner Bullard presented questions regarding the compatibility of the technology and equipment.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve budget amendment 99-00-251 to transfer from Reserve for Contingencies, and purchase equipment to implement the County-Com Business Telecommunications project including the installation and training as proposed and revised by Siemens Information and Communication Networks, Inc. for the operation of a County owned telephone switch with a revision to the contingency of \$30,000. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 42 for copy of detail information. The Chair commended the Committee for their work on this project.

E. Board Attorney-Bus Transportation contract

Ross Macbeth presented an agreement between the School Board and the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners for the purpose of providing one bus and one driver for the period of June 19th through June 23, 2000, to transport participants in the 4-H Summer Day Camp program. The cost of operating the bus will be paid by the 4-H Foundation. The Board's insurance will be covering the liability. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the Bus Transportation contract with the School Board. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

F. Asst. County Admin: Request for volunteer fire department training

This item was deleted from the agenda.

G. County Administrator:

1. Budget amendment 99-00-241

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve budget amendment 99-00-241 for additional funds required for the Board Attorney's cost center. This increase is due to the change in the contract which occurred after the adoption of the 1999-2000 budget. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. Commissioner Bullard requested an analysis of cost comparison from last year to this year in attorney fees.

2. Proposed Interlocal agreement with School Board

Carl Cool reported that Highlands County is working with the design engineers on the Sebring Parkway Phase II design. This design will require additional right-of-way. The School Board staff is at the same time working with their design engineers on a major enlargement of the Fred Wild School site. Highlands Avenue and Youth Care Lane will become a signalized intersection. In order to coordinate both projects, staff would like to propose an Interlocal agreement between the School Board and the Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Cool suggested that the Board assume the following responsibility:

- Acquire the needed right-of-way for the two new entrances to the site along with the retention area needed for the road and school site.
- Build the two new entrances to the school before the existing driveways are removed.
- Allow the School Board to use some of the acquired road right-of-way as a temporary retention basin until the permanent basic is constructed.

The School Board assume the following responsibility:

- Deed free of charge the needed right-of-way for Sebring Parkway Phase II.
Allow the existing entrances to Fred Wild Elementary School to be closed.
- Design and get permits for their site improvements and the two new entrances to the school off Youth Care Lane.
- Schedule the school site improvements to work with the County on the road improvements.
- Allow the closing of the two existing entrances from Sebring High School onto Highlands Avenue after a new entrance is constructed north of the current Children's Advocacy Center.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the concept of the proposed Interlocal agreement with the Highlands County School Board in accordance with the above conditions. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 43.

3. Highlands County Health Facilities Authority-Resolutions

Carl Cool read the captions of the Health Facilities Resolution into the record. Attorney Mike Swaine spoke in favor of the bond issuance. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution 00-81 approving the issuance by the Orange County Health Facilities Authority of its Revenue Bonds (Adventist Health System/Sunbelt) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,000,000,000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Ross Macbeth read the captions of the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution 00-82 approving the issuance by the Highlands County Health Facilities Authority of its Revenue Bonds (Adventist Health System/Sunbelt) with Interlocal agreements with other Health Facilities Authorities in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,000,000,000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Ross Macbeth read the captions of the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Gose,

seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution 00-83 approving the issuance by the Highlands County Health Facilities Authority of its Revenue Bonds (Adventist Health System/Sunbelt, Inc. Accounts Receivable Program) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$600,000,000. See Health Facilities Authority file for copy.

4. Consent Agenda item number 6-Approval to execute addendum to SWFWMD melaleuca contract 00CON000062

Commissioner Bullard commended the Peace River Basin Board and Greg Reynolds, representative, for their willingness to initiate a program to add an additional \$20,000.00 with no match from the Board to the melaleuca removal and control program. This item was placed back on the Consent agenda for approval.

5. Crosswalk signs at school crossings

Carl Cool presented a miniature of the new crosswalk signs that will be going up this summer. They are constructed of a new material. The signs will be up for school starting this fall and will also be used for heavy pedestrian traffic.

H. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as listed:

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits as listed:

Law Library	1,740.75
General	1,554,046.94
County Transportation	111,833.16
E911 Operations	72,206.40
Intergovt Radio Communications	851.23
Fl Boating Improvement	528.33
Local Govt Infra Surtax	135,820.76
Affordable Housing Assistance	19,064.03
Special Law Enforcement	1,172.06
Solid Waste	225,411.47
Placid Utilities	9,586.68
Highway Park Utility	2,416.71
Risk Retention Fund	15,687.64
Employee Benefit	107,754.41
Highlands Hospital Pass thru	30,021.31

2. Approval of minutes of 5-9-00, 5-16-00, and 5-23-00 meetings

3. Appointment of Dennis Dunn to Construction Licensing, Enforcement and Appeals Board. See SMB 37 Page 44 for copy of resume.

4. Approval to extend the local state of emergency. See Res. Book 14 Page 9.

5. Approval to execute SHIP satisfaction of mortgage - Barefield. See SHIP file.

6. Approval to execute addendum to SWFWMD melaleuca contract. (00CON000062). See SMB 37 Page 45.
7. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-230(work study program) 99-00-231 (Public Information OPS college students) 99-00-233 (Interpreters Circuit Juvenile) 99-00- 237 (Operations OPS position) 99-00-238 (Highway Safety overtime) 99-00-239 (County Engineer overtime) and 99-00-245 (Placid Utilities & Highway Park Water). See SMB37 Page 51.
8. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-227 (Library various) 99-00-228 (Pedestrian & Crosswalks @ US 27 & Sparrow Ave) 99-00-229 (Small County Road Assistance Program) 99-00- 242 (Law Enforcement Block Grant to purchase secure communications equipment for the Sheriff's Department) and 99- 00-243 (Aquatic Plant Program-Lake Childs melaleuca control). See Res. Book 14 Page 10.
9. Approval of amendment to third party administrator agreement with Robey-Barber merger with Corporate Benefit Services of America, Inc. See Employee Benefit file.
10. Approval of correction to amendment #2 to Health Plan Document to read Amendment #4. See Employee Benefit file.
11. Approval of change order #7 to E.O. Koch for Sebring Library Expansion. See Library file.
12. Approval of Recycling & Education, Waste Tire, Litter Control and Small County Grants. See SMB 37 Page 46.
13. Appointment of Norman A. Cukras to the Historic Preservation Commission. See SMB 37 Page 47 for copy of resume.
14. Approval of grant expenditure and budget amendment 99-00-248(reallocate funding of grant project to facilitate repair and maintenance of Recycling). See SMB 37 Page 48.
15. Appointment of Rick Hitt as the alternate voting member, representing the South Florida Community College to the Recreation & Parks Advisory Committee. See SMB 37 Page 49.
16. Approval to sell tax certificate 99-10906 (Miguel Garciga #1077). See SMB 37 Page 50.
17. Approval to execute contract on Courthouse restoration. See SMB 37 Page 52.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

- Mr. Earl Pickett presented a sealed letter to the Commissioners to be entered into the record regarding Hank Kowalski and his membership on the NRAC. See SMB 37 Page 53 for copy. The Board Attorney advised that he has researched membership removal but it is inconclusive at this point. Discussion continued on whether the removal should be for cause or not for cause. The

County Administrator spoke in favor of the Board having the option of removing not for cause. Commissioner Bullard recommended that when the Board appoints Committees, it be at the pleasure of the Board, and that will give the latitude to remove for cause or not for cause. Commissioner Stokes, as liaison to the Committee, advised that he will approach the Committee for their recommendation. The Chair asked that each Commissioner listen to the tape of the meeting for future discussion. The consensus of the Board was to direct Mr. Macbeth to follow up with research. Commissioner Bullard requested that the resolution adopted by the Board on Civility be copied to all county appointees.

- John Williams spoke regarding the formation of Intergovernmental Advisory Committee as per the Comprehensive Plan. The Chair directed Mr. Cool to follow up and report back to the Board.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gose endorsed the concept of a New National Cemetery for Veterans at the Edna Pearce Lockett Estate. Mr. Cool reported that a complete package has been mailed to the Veterans Affairs office and a Resolution will be forthcoming to the Board. Commissioner Stokes stated that we should consider how it will fit into the master plan. See SMB 37 Page 54.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest:

Clerk

The Budget Workshop of the Board, County Department Heads, Non-Profit Associations, Corporations, and Organizations was held on June 5th, 7th, and 8th of 2000 in the Government Center Boardroom, 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following schedule:

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida

The Budget Office staff listened to each Department request and will formulate a recommendation to the County Administrator prior to July 11, 2000. On that date, the recommendation will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners. All agencies will be advised of this recommendation and allowed to register appeals, or complaints, with the Board on July 18, 2000. Any changes will be incorporated and millage certification is tentatively scheduled on August 1, 2000.

AGENCY	PAGE #	COST CENTER	LOCATION	TENTATIVE TIMES
Human Services		5225	Government Center Boardroom	8:00 A.M.
Human Services Administration	E-201	5220		
Public Assistance Program	E-209	5221		
State-County Assistance Program	E-211	5222		
Transportation Disadvantaged	E-226	5226		
Commodities	E-213	5223		
Health Care Responsibility Act	E-199	5108		
Children's Advocacy Center	E-74	3995		
Adapt Program	E-228	5227		
Legal Aid Program	G-63	1046		
Veterans	E-167	2991		8:15 A.M.
Nu-Hope	E-217	5224		8:30 A.M.
Personnel	D-25	2107		8:45 A.M.
Work Study Program	D-94	5310		
Employee Benefits	D-54	7993		
Insurance - General Claims	D-31	2556		
Insurance - Workers' Comp.	D-44	2557		
Agri & Home Economics Agent	E-1	6302		9:00 A.M.
General Services	D-65	2558		9:15 A.M.
Health Department	H-7	5101		9:30 A.M.
Animal Control	E-98	5106		9:45 A.M.
Building Department	F-176	3440		10:15 A.M.
Zoning Department	F-164	3439		10:30 A.M.

Nuisance Abatement		F-184	6306		10:45 A..M.
County Planning & Development		F-144	2700		11:00 A.M.
Conservation Trust		E-277	6307		
State Housing Initiatives Program (SHIP)		E-232	5342		11:15 A.M.
Libraries		E-106	6209-6212		11:30 A.M.
Pre-Trial Release		G-26	1014		11:45 A.M.
LUNCH BREAK					
Supervisor of Elections		G-116	2442		1:00 P.M.
Clerk of Courts		G-67	2102, 2320, 1004, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1015, 1017, 1018, 1019, 1020, 1027, 1032, 1034, 1040, 1041, 1043		1:30 P.M.
Sheriff		G-103	2339, 3101, 3322, 3323, 1029, 1030		2:00 P.M.
County Engineer		F-1	4101		2:30 P.M.
Placid Utilities - Water		F-186	7102		
Placid Utilities - Sewer		F-207	7103		
Highway Park		F-198	7102A		
Highway Safety		F-65	4105		
Special Projects Director		D-98	7992		3:00 P.M.
MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2000					
AGENCY		PAGE #	COST CENTER	LOCATION	TENTATIVE TIMES
Non-Ad Valorem Districts:				Government Center Boardroom	3:15 P.M.
Highway Park		J-49	7965		
Lake Haven Estates		J-2	7970		
Orange Blossom Unit 12		J-4	7971		
Sebring Acres		J-6	7972		
Orange Blossom CCC		J-8	7973		
Sun 'n Lakes LP Recreational District		J-10	7974		
Orange Blossom Units 1-19		J-12	7975		
Orange Blossom Unit 6		J-14	7976		
Red Hill Farms		J-16	7977		
Sebring Hills		J-51	7978		
Orange Blossom Units 8 & 9		J-18	7979		
Lake Placid Sun 'n Lakes Special District		J-20	7980		
Sebring Highlands Special Tax District		J-22	7983		
Orange Villa Special Benefit District		J-24	7984		
Placid Lakes Special Benefit District		J-28	7987		
Istokpoga Marsh Improvement District		J-31	7989		
Avon Park Estates Special Benefit District		J-33	7990		
Highlands Park Estates Special Tax District		J-35	7995		
Hickory Hills Special Tax District		J-37	7996		
Sebring Country Estates		J-53	7998		
Road and Bridge		F-21	4102		3:30 P.M.
Maintenance Shop		F-56	4104		

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Roadside Mowing	F-76	4106		
County Shell Pit	F-83	4108		
Operations Department	E-162	6104		4:00 P.M.
Carpentry Shop	F-47	4103		
Recreation	E-126	6101		
Parks Department	E-143	6102		
Weed Control	E-275	6304, 6305		
Public Information	D-61	2109		4:45 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2000

AGENCY	PAGE #	COST CENTER	LOCATION	TENTATIVE TIMES
Property Appraiser	G-111	2211	Government Center Boardroom	10:00 A.M.
Emergency Operations Director	E-46	3213, 3211		10:30 A.M.
Special Tax Districts-Fire:				
Lake Placid Special Benefit Fire District	J-56	7966		
Lorida Special Benefit Fire District	J-64	7968		
Lake Placid Sun 'n Lakes Fire District	J-75	7981		
DeSoto City Special Fire District	J-81	7982		
Highlands Lakes Fire District	J-90	7988		
Leisure Lakes Special Tax Fire District	J-96	7994		
Highlands Park Estates Special Tax Fire District	J-105	7997		
Circuit Court	G-1	1000		
Natural Resources	E-237	6303		11:15 A.M.
Emergency Medical Services	E-80	5105		11:30 A.M.
Facilities Management	D-73	2672		11:45 A.M.
Courthouse Facilities	D-1	1031		

LUNCH BREAK

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2000

AGENCY	PAGE #	COST CENTER	LOCATION	TENTATIVE TIMES
Board of County Commissioners	C-1	2101	Government Center Boardroom	1:45 P.M. until completed. These cost centers to be presented as noted or requested
Central Services	D-102	2111		
Board Attorney	D-73	2103		
County Administrator	C-5	2104		
County Audits	D-9	2105		
Office of Management & Budget	D-11	2106		
Non-Ad Valorem Assessment	D-22	2108		
County Court	G-6	1001		
State Attorney	G-8	1002, 1002A		
Public Defender	G-12	1003, 1003A		

Law Library	G-46	1033		
Historic District Site Survey	D-96	6213		
Court Reporter	G-16	1009, 1021, 1035, 1042		
Appeals	G-14	1005		
Clinical Evaluation Circuit Criminal	G-18	1010		
Interpreters Circuit Criminal	G-20	1011		
Expert Witness Circuit Criminal	G-22	1012		
PD Conflicts Circuit Criminal	G-24	1013		
Dispute Resolution Circuit Civil	NA	1016		
Clinical Evaluation Circuit Juvenile	G-33	1022		
Interpreters Circuit Juvenile	G-35	1023		
Expert Witness Circuit Juvenile	G-37	1024		
PD Conflicts Circuit Juvenile	G-39	1025		
Guardian Ad Litem Circuit Juvenile	G-41	1026		
Clinical Evaluation Circuit Probate	G-44	1028		
Clinical Evaluation County Criminal	G-51	1036		
Interpreters-County Criminal	G-53	1037		
Expert Witness-County Criminal	G-55	1038		
PD Conflicts County Criminal	G-57	1039		
Attorney Fee Circuit Probate	G-61	1044		
Drug Enforcement Program	NA	3104		
Community Traffic Safety	E-44	3105		
Municipalities	NA	2992		
Florida Highway Patrol	G-65	3102		
Division of Forestry	E-65	3214		
Medical Examiner	H-4	3990		
Armory	NA	3992		
Mental Health	E-173	5103		
Tubercular Care	E-197	5104		
Highlands County Housing Authority	H-40	5343		
Community Redevelopment Agency- Sebring	H-43	5346		
Community Redevelopment Agency- Avon Park	H-45	5347		
Sebring Regional Airport/Industrial Park	H-47	5348		
Sebring Airport Authority	K-22	4300		
Highlands Park Estate Improvement Trust Fund	J-38(a)	7999		
Long Term Notes	I-1	8110		
Revenue Certificates	J-40	8111		
Certificates of Indebtedness	NA	8120		
Interfund Transfer	NA	9101		
Reserve for Contingency	D - 133 & F-91	9990		
Emergency Management	E-8	3991		3:30 P.M.
E911 Operations	E-24	3997, 3998		
THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2000				
AGENCY	PAGE #	COST CENTER	LOCATION	TENTATIVE TIMES
Convention Visitors Bureau	D-102	2111	Government Center Boardroom	9:00 A.M.
Refuse Disposal System	F-92	4210		1:30 p.m

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD, JUNE 13, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L. Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

No report presented.

- B. **Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. **Upcoming County meetings:**

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. *The Chair reported that the August Workshop is scheduled in Polk County at 1:30 p.m. There will be no meeting in Highlands County on August 8th or August 29th, which is a fifth Tuesday. Commissioner Bullard advised that the Census Committee is wrapping up and he will be issuing a final report to the Board. Carl Cool reported that the Highlands County's census is complete and was the first county to complete their census.*

4. **Workshop on impact fees**

Carl Cool presented the introduction on impact fees. In the early stages of Highlands County, the idea was to encourage growth. Later in the 1960's, traffic problems began to surface. In 1970, discussion began to surface in Florida counties on creating an impact fee to help with the payment of water and sewer infrastructure. Some Counties embraced this idea and there are a lot of court cases in this regard. In 1985 the Growth Management Act of Florida demanded that counties adopt a Comprehensive Plan that will deal with growth and the impacts to the system. The issue of development impact fees was raised at the December 8, 1999 Natural Resources Advisory Commission meeting. It was stated that the subject of a comprehensive schedule of impact fees for development was brought up at the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee meeting and consensus was that the current fee schedule is too low and should be raised to enable the County to develop recreation areas and boat ramps. NRAC made a motion to

recommend that the Board of County Commissioners consider adopting a comprehensive schedule of impact fees to help pay for the future development of Highlands County. Staff advised NRAC that a study would have to be done to cost out such a schedule based on future recreation facilities, roads and environmental mitigation requirements. The initial phase of such a study would be to canvas surrounding local governments that currently impose impact fees. Mr. Cool advised that impact fees must be used only to lessen the impact of the development. You can only keep the level of service from going down, you cannot improve the level of service. Highlands County's growth rate is about in the middle of the scale. It averages about 2 to 3% per year. Some Counties use impact fees to control the growth rate.

Jim Polatty, presented a power point presentation on impact fees. He explained that impact fees are cash fees levied on the developer of a property for residential, commercial or other private uses at the time of issuing a building permit. He presented detailed information on why we have impact fees, a basis for adopting impact fees in Florida, the politics of impact fees, the counties that charge impact fees in Florida, the policy basis for establishing impact fees, and a study as a requirement to adopt impact fees. Mr. Polatty also presented a summary of impact fees, *arguments pro and con*. See Impact Fee file for copy of information.

Mr. Cool stated that when new homes are built, the money from the one cent sales tax is similar to an impact fee, plus it comes to the Board without any restrictions as long as it is spent for infrastructure. He is not recommending that the Board continue with the study to implement an impact fee.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. John Williams spoke in favor of the concept of impact fees for future growth. He stated that impact fees can exempt out low cost housing and will assist the County in managing its growth. Gabriel Read, Avon Park, and Vaughn Whitesides, Buttonwood Bay, spoke in favor of impact fees. C.D. "Chip" Boring, realtor, spoke in opposition. See file for copy.

Commissioner input

Commissioner Stokes noted that present taxpayers are not paying for new growth. The roads in a development aren't accepted until they meet county standards. His concern with impact fees is the cost that will affect young families and price them out of their homes. He is more concerned with industrial growth. The County needs new growth, and they pay as they come into the County. Commissioner Gose agreed, that if we were in a rapid growth, there would be concern. Impact fees can control growth. If we keep the plan we have, with traffic, environmental impact, and issues being addressed by local officials and the state, we should be in good shape. Commissioner Bullard stated that he is more in the middle. He does not oppose exploring the idea of impact fees as long as it is a fair way of paying for those cost. He is opposed to creating a new tax. Tom Portz addressed the issue of how the Property Appraiser, Raymond McIntyre aggressively carries out his function. He is quick to add new development to the tax roll. The Lakeshore Mall went on the tax roll at 80 percent completion, so the system works in many ways to keep the load from the taxpayer. Mr. Portz stated that the Commission may want to explore the idea of the non-advalorem assessment. The Commission has already looked at this for EMS.

Commissioner Maxcy stated that he is not in favor of impact fees at this time. Commissioner Flowers stated that we need to keep the idea on the back burner in case we do need to implement fees. His

primary concern is public safety. If we are getting a 3% increase in growth, then we need to make sure our public safety department is being increased by that amount. The Chair advised that the Board will place this item on the back burner, and if any Board member wishes to take it a step further, get with Mr. Cool, and have it placed as an agenda item for public hearing.

Break 10:35 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

5. Workshop on enhanced Code Enforcement

Commissioner Flowers asked that this issue be discussed due to overgrown lots in the County. Several areas of the County have absentee owners, where they adjoin developed lots. Commissioner Gose stated that the Commission has discussed this problem in the past and the consensus was that once a lot has been mowed, it should be kept that way. If it is a woods area, then it may remain that way. Carl Cool noted that the complaints come from vacant lots next to a house. Mr. Cool recommended that the Board adopt an ordinance with a higher level of maintenance requirements for listed subdivisions. Eddie Conklin, Code Enforcement Officer, related that an active homeowner's association is better at enacting the code than his department. He does think there is a need in areas such as Sun'n Lakes community. The majority of complaints that he receives are located in Placid Lakes or Leisure Lakes.

Commissioner Bullard stated that the Code Enforcement Department is understaffed. He recommended Municipal Taxing Districts be set up at the direction of the homeowners association with fees assessed for code enforcement control. Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor of a minimum maintenance ordinance that will prevent a fire hazard. Tom Portz stated that the Division of Forestry has the capabilities of going on private property and to clear for a fire break, as a result of the wildfires. The homeowner can ask for that relief. Mr. Portz will get additional information and bring back to the Board. Commissioner Stokes spoke regarding problems with Austrian Pines on a lot in the Lorida area, adjacent to a home. The Chair related an incident where a senior citizen lives in DeSoto City, is disabled and does not have the ability to organize a homeowner's association. He does not feel that the homeowner's association will solve all of the problems.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Clayton Womer stated that the Board cannot enforce the codes that they have in effect. He suggested that Sheriff's deputies may want to add code enforcement to their duties. Staff was directed to bring back a report from the Division of Forestry, along with any ideas that they may have. Code Enforcement was directed to bring back a list of complaints that are received in their office.

6. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to set the Action agenda with an addition of a budget amendment as item C. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve payment of employee benefits in the amount of \$59,623.79. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval to extend local state of emergency

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to extend the local state of emergency. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 13.

C. Approval of budget amendment 99- 00-270 and Resolution

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve budget amendment 99-00-270, and resolution, to carry forward the unencumbered balance of the new EOC building project into FY 1999-2000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 14.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:34 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, JUNE 20, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Carl Cool, County Administrator. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair David Flowers gave special recognition to students from SFCC, who are participating in a program with the Workforce Investment Board, and are receiving dual enrollment credits under the leadership of Kevin Brown, Director of Vocational programs at the college. They are learning citizenship skills and how government works.

A. Sheriff:

Lt. Benton presented the Daily Jail Inmate Count for the period ending June 20, 2000. The Farm report was also given.

B. Clerk

No report presented.

C. Upcoming meetings:

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda as amended:

- Remove item F-2 under the Asst. County Administrator (contract for design/build of Sun'n Lake Fire Station). This item will be heard at a later date.
- Approval of capital expenditure request, budget amendment, and resolution to be heard under the Tax Districts.
- An addition of a Resolution in support of the FHREDI Special Category Grant Application to be listed as Consent agenda item number 18.
- Remove Consent agenda item number 7, and place under the County Administrator as item H-1.
- Remove Consent agenda item number 13, budget amendment 99-00-257 and place as item H-2

under the County Administrator for discussion.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

The Chair reported that item G. Ron Hytoff, CEO, Tampa General Hospital: Aeromed update will be presented when he arrives from Tampa.

A. Public hearing to consider purchase of Lake Ridge Grove property

Proof of publication entered into the record by Bill Stephenson, Special Projects Director. See SMB 34 Page 60. Mr. Stephenson advised that this property is needed for road construction of the road in Sebring Parkway Phase III. This property is adjacent to Memorial Blvd., and will be the last property needed for the Phase III project. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the purchase of Lake Ridge Grove property for the Sebring Parkway Phase III, at the agreed price of \$55,000.00. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against the purchase. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Special Projects Director: Request to establish a tax district, Highlands Park Estates

Bill Stephenson, Special Projects Director, introduced Ms. Jan Smart, Highlands Park Estates District, Vice-president. Ms. Smart presented a proposal to establish a special improvement tax district. She reported that 3,984 ballots were mailed and 1,352 ballots were returned. The following tally was established:

In favor of establishing the district	1121 or 82.91 %
Against	231 or 17.09%
Returned	9
Not valid	53
USPS Damage	3

Ms. Smart stated that they are asking for \$10.00 per lot with the priority to be placed on roads. This amount will generate approximately \$50,000 per year toward that project. There is \$139,000 left in the original fund for roads. Other projects on the list are repair of the pier and the clubhouse.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to direct the Board Attorney to draw up an ordinance. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. The County Administrator suggested that additional consideration be given to a plan for the road building. He recommended a higher assessment, as inflation is a factor and \$50,000 per year will not accomplish much. Ms. Smart stated that the small figure was used as most of the residents own 10 or 20 lots each, and she did not want to discourage them. She would like the assessment to remain at \$10.00 as they are not expecting numerous improvements at once and some people like living in the wilderness. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 61.

C. County Engineer: FDOT TEA 21 program and District One landscape program

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented two Transportation Enhancement Projects and two Applications for Highway System Streetscape Grant District One Landscape Program for the Boards' consideration to forward to the Florida Department of Transportation for the Department's use in determining eligibility. The

project name, project sponsor, local funding, and total project cost are as follows:

TEA-21

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Sponsor</u>	<u>Local Funding Amount</u>	<u>Total Project Cost</u>
US 27 from City of Sebring limits near Talbert Street northward to DeSoto Road	City of Sebring	0	\$300,000.00
Sun 'n Lake Boulevard Enhancement	Sun 'n Lake Improvement District of Sebring	\$20,000.00	\$ 75,000.00

HIGHWAY SYSTEM STREETScape GRANT DISTRICT ONE LANDSCAPE PROGRAM

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Sponsor</u>	<u>Local Funding Amount</u>	<u>Total Project Cost</u>
US 27 from the northerly boundary of the City of Sebring to north of US 27 and Fairmount Drive	City of Sebring	0	\$200,000.00
Sun 'n Lake Entrance Restoration	Sun 'n Lake Improvement District of Sebring	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 25,000.00

As noted on the attached transmittal letter from the Department, it is anticipated priority projects will be competing for Fiscal Year 2005/2006 funds, the Landscape Program will be competing for Fiscal Year 2005/2006 funds. FDOT is requesting a prioritized listing to be submitted by August 1, 2000, once eligibility is determined by FDOT, staff will ask the Board to prioritize these projects at the July 18, 2000 regular meeting.

Carl Cool, on behalf of the Trails Initiative Committee, presented a project of trails for the Sebring Parkway. There is a multi-use trail plan for Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III. Phase III will have a northern terminus of Memorial Drive. The plan that has been proposed is a trail plan that will extend from Sebring all the way to down town Avon Park. This additional project is to be included in the package to see if DOT will approve it as a part of that plan. It will be a multi-use trail from the northern end of the Sebring Parkway, at Memorial Drive, northward up along Highlands Avenue to Main Street in Avon Park, and then South and west on College Drive to US 27. This will provide an eight-foot trail for biking, hiking, and walking.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the two applications as submitted for TEA 21, and two applications submitted for the Highway System Streetscape Grant District One Landscape Program, along with the multi-use trail plan, and direct Engineering staff to forward the project applications to the FDOT for determination of eligibility. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See FDOT file for copy.

D. Operations Manager: Recommendation for SFCC ballfield lights

Vicki Pontius, Operations Manager, presented the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee recommendations to fund the South Florida Community College \$50,000 of infrastructure recreation funds for partial costs of the purchase and installation of lighting facilities at the college baseball field. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the funding, but to allow it to go through the normal budget process. Rick Hitt, representing SFCC, advised that if the funds are received in October 2000, then they will provide the match needed for the grant. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the SFCC request for funding in the amount of \$50,000 of Infrastructure recreation funds for the partial cost of purchase and installation of lighting facilities at the Panther baseball field with the funding to go through the normal budgeting process. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 62.

E. Board Attorney

Ross Macbeth presented the final report on the Danmark Superfund Site. He stated that contributions from parties who were not members of the group but also contributed to the oil site, caused too much money to be required for the settlement amount. The Board of County Commissioners sent a total of \$15,228, and has received a refund of \$1,600.82. This is the final accounting on the Superfund Site.

F. Asst. County Admin.:

1. Request for volunteer firefighter training

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator reported that a recent change of training level is now being recommended for the Volunteer Firefighters. The State Fire College has approved the minimum be moved from the old 40-hour basic, to a new 160 hour course. Staff is in favor of this training, for service level improvement for the public, safety, and liability for the volunteers, and although not required by law it does create a "standard case" with which we may be held accountable. The new course cost is \$157.00 for the books, and \$253.00 for the course tuition.

The County's current policy requires completion of the course curriculum prior to reimbursement. The Fire Chiefs have requested consideration to change this situation for this specific course only. Mr. Portz and Mr. Eures concur with the change, and request the Board of County Commissioners' permission to allow the County to pay for this training in advance. The amount of time that the volunteers will spend in training is a significant commitment. Requiring an out of pocket expense of \$410.00 to volunteer their time is excessive. Tim Eures explained that the statutes have changed for volunteers. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to pay in advance the *160 hour firefighter course* and associated budget amendment to supplement the additional cost. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 65.

G. 10 a.m.- Ron Hytoff, CEO, Tampa General Hospital: Aeromed update

Ron Hytoff, representing Tampa General Hospital, reported that Aeromed II will continue to be based at Sebring Regional Airport and respond to emergencies. The Commission lobbied state legislators on behalf of the emergency helicopter and it was funded approximately \$200,000. The hospital also received funding from a number of sources. The Commission praised David Duke for his commitment to keeping Aeromed II in our area.

H. County Administrator: Budget Amendments 99-00-258, 264, and 278

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented budget amendments for approval. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve budget amendment 99-00-258 for the purchase of a bucket truck for the Highway Safety Department, previously approved in FY 99/00 budget. See SMB 37 Page 63.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve an amendment to the grant agreement with FDEP for a reduction in the grant expenditures by \$125,540.00 to account for the expenses that we will actually incur for the remainder of the year and approve budget amendment 99-00-264 for realignment of accounts. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 64.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve budget amendment 99-00-278 for necessary funding to make repairs at the County's fuel sites due to age and possible lightning damage. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

1. Discussion of Consent agenda item number 7 - approval to accept Contractual Insurance-Indemnification Guidelines:

Commissioner Bullard stated concerns on imposing rigid standards on businesses within the county. He asked if staff has consulted with the businesses to see if the requirements will create a hardship and if it will narrow the list of available bidders. Carl Cool reported that the program will have to be monitored carefully. The Risk Manager is working diligently to eliminate liability risk to the Board. Some modification to the guidelines may be necessary. Mr. Portz advised that the Public Risk Manager has spoken to the carriers and the policy is comparative to other counties and available in the market. He does not have an answer regarding the vendors. Commissioner Bullard asked that the program be monitored and staff report back to the Commission.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to accept the Contractual Insurance Indemnification Guidelines as Highlands County's standard operating procedures when issuing formal bids, hiring any Contractors, and/or Sub-Contractors for the County, effective July 1, 2000, and to monitor the program closely. See Contractors Insurance file for copy.

2. Discussion on Consent agenda item number 13-budget amendment #99-00257

Richard Conover presented comments on the overtime at the Landfill. Carl Cool stated that this is an appropriate expenditure. The county has collected more recyclables than anticipated but there is cost in recovering the recycling materials and the overtime was necessary. The item was placed back on the Consent agenda for approval.

3. Discussion on Consent agenda item number 1- Approval to pay all duly authorized bills

Carl Cool reported that the Government Center will be fully paid off when the check is mailed to the SunTrust Bank in the amount of \$6,271. This is the last annual payment. The Government Center was built and financed two years ago.

I. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as

amended.

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits**

Law Library	146.00
General	550,473.89
County Transportation	36,767.86
E911 Operations	14,100.40
Conservation Trust	4,901.00
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	346,407.72
Community Development Block	94,373.56
Affordable Housing Assistance	85,848.07
Solid Waste	72,151.19
Placid Utilities	36,146.39
Highway Park Utility	779.14
Risk Retention Fund	152,447.70
Employee Benefit	112,187.50
2. **Approval of minutes of 6-6-00 and 6-5-00 and 6-8-00 budget workshops**
3. **Accept into record - May Monthly Report**
4. **Approval to extend local state of emergency. See Res. Book 14 Page 15.**
5. **Approval of SHIP Satisfaction of Mortgage - Fotheringham. See SMB 37 Page 66.**
6. **Approval of DOT traffic signal order #30 for Highlands Avenue and Mid Florida Credit Union. See SMB 37 Page 67.**
7. **Approval to accept Contractual Insurance-Indemnification Guidelines. See Insurance file for copy.**
8. **Approval to adopt resolution on G. Pierce Wood Memorial Hospital. See Res. Book 14 Page 16.**
9. **Approval to adopt resolution on Rudy Maloy for NACo candidacy. See Res. Book 14 Page 17.**
10. **Approval to extend date of waiver of tag fees for Humane Society for June 10th. See SMB 37 Page 68.**
11. **Approval to Adopt a Highway Agreement with Salvation Army Men’s Club. See Adopt Highway Agreement file.**
12. **Approval to execute 1999 Tax Roll Recapitulation. See SMB 37 Page 69.**
13. **Approval of budget amendments 99-00-253 (Sebring Library expansion) 99-00- 257 (Solid Waste personnel expenses) 99-00- 260 (Local Govt Surtax) 99-00-265 (Pre Trial Release OPS) 99-00-267 (Non Ad Valorem Assessment) 99-00-268 (Sebring Parkway Phase I) 99-00-271 (Witness fee for indigent criminal defendants) and 99-00-273 (Courthouse windows and new sprinkler system). See SMB 37 Page 70.**
14. **Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-269 (SHIP Grant) See Res. Book 14 Page 18.**
15. **Approval of SHIP Satisfaction of Mortgage - Crenshaw. See SMB 37 Page 71.**
16. **Approval of SHIP Satisfaction of Mortgage - Hampton. See SMB 37 Page 72.**
17. **Approval to execute Memorandum of Understanding with Leisure Lakes and Placid**

Lake fire districts. See SMB 37 Page 73.

18. Approval of Resolution in support of the FHREDI Special Category Grant Application. See Res. Book 14 Page 19.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Richard Conover gave special recognition to Chair David Flowers on his birthday.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Stokes, liaison to NRAC, reported on the request from the Board members, regarding removal of Hank Kowalski from the NRAC. Mr. Stokes advised that he approached the Council at their meeting and the recommendation was to retain John Williams and Hank Kowalski on the Council until December. The Chair advised that we will continue to monitor this situation and if any board member wishes to bring this to the table for action before December, the Board will hear the matter again. Commissioner Bullard requested that the Board Attorney continue to proceed with his work to define grounds for removing appointed committee members and a code of behavior.

Chair Flowers presented a letter into the record from the Florida Counties Foundation for the County Administrators' participation in the Budget and Finance workshop for Small Counties. See SMB 37 Page 71.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest:

Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, JULY 5, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Edgar Stokes. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

No report presented.

- B. **Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to set the Action agenda as amended:

- Add facility request for Florida Ridge Big Brothers/Big Sisters under Tom Portz as item C-1-A.
- Add Resolution to establish a public hearing to consider road closing for Lake June Vista Road under the County Administrator as item E-5.
- Remove Consent agenda number 10 at the request of Commissioner Bullard and place under the County Administrator as item E-6.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

- A. **Johnnie Johnson: Suncoast Center for Independent Living, Inc.**

Johnnie Johnson, representing the Suncoast Center for Independent Living, Inc., located at the Arcadia office appeared before the Board with information regarding the philosophy of independent living by providing wheel chair ramps to disabled persons. Dave Cauffield, Program Manager at the Suncoast Center in Sarasota, presented a detailed outline of services provided by his organization. Mr. Cauffield requested the opportunity to submit a proposal to the Commissioners for help with funding the program in Highlands County and possibly open

a satellite office here. The Chair suggested that he organize a budget or a plan to be given to the County Administrator for review by the budget office. He also recommended that the organization coordinate with David Heacock, Housing Director, of the SHIP Program for possible grant funding.

B. Operations Manager:

1. Recommendation from Recreation Committee for ballfield funding

Vicki Pontius, Operation Manager, advised that three months ago a sub committee was established by the Recreation Committee to see what deficiencies we have in the softball field locations. The subcommittee thought that the most economical thing would be to upgrade some current fields in this region. They recommended to the Parks and Advisory Committee to upgrade the Lincoln Heights Ballfield, which is a county owned facility, and also the Sun'n Lake Ballfield, which is an existing field in the Sun'n Lake Community. The cost estimate for Sun'n Lake Ballfield came in at \$112,000. The recommendation of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee was to fund \$112,000 of county recreational infrastructure dollars to assist with the construction of two new softball fields, and the conversion of two girls softball fields for the Max Long complex. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the recommendations of the RPAC. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the request of infrastructure monies to construct and modify fields at Max Long complex. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 79.

2. Request approval of Rails to Trails Master Plan

Mr. Merritt O'Brien, representing the Rails to Trails subcommittee of the RPAC, presented the request for approval of the Greenways, Trails, and Bikeways plan. The plan was previously presented and then sent to local municipalities and FDOT for their review and comments. Minor modifications have been made at the suggestion of these agencies. Upon approval, the plan will be placed on the agenda July 25 to be adopted as an ordinance. Once the ordinance is in place, the plan will be submitted to DCA for implementation into the Highlands County Comprehensive Plan.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Greenways, Trails, and Bikeways plan. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 80.

C. Assistant County Administrator:

1. Request from Heartland Cultural Alliance

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, presented request of Rose H. Bell, representing the Heartland Cultural Alliance. The Alliance, acting as cosponsor with the Republican and Democratic Womens' Club, request the Board waive the fee for the Ag Center to hold a Political Forum, prior to the primaries. The Board Attorney did not have a problem with the request. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the request to waive the fee for the Political Forum. Commissioner Stokes asked if this request has been reviewed by the Building Use Committee. Tom Portz advised that he will refer the request to them on July 5th and bring back before the Board. Motion was withdrawn by Commissioner Maxcy and the second was withdrawn by Commissioner Gose. Commissioner Bullard suggested that all political candidates be invited to participate at the forum, should this item be approved. See SMB 37 Page 81.

2. Florida Big Brothers and Sisters:

The consensus of the Board was to approve the request of Florida Big Brothers and Sisters to allow the use of the old County Board Room for a presentation, targeting local businesses, and the general public on the use of the Internet and Big Brothers/Big Sisters mentioning. The seminar will be held on August 4, 2000 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. See SMB 37 Page 82.

3. Phone equipment purchases

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, presented recommendations for a technology upgrade from the *old R.T. phone lines, dedicated to radios*, to the newer technology of *T-1 carrier lines*. The 911 Communications Committee reviewed the contract and recommended the purchase of the equipment for this upgrade. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Sprint contract for purchase of recurring services and equipment, to network T-1 carrier for radio linkage to towers, to include waiver of bid process for equipment portion of acquisition. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 82.

4. Sun 'n Lake of Lake Placid Fire Station contract

Tom Portz presented the contract for execution for the design-build of the Sun'n Lakes Fire Station. The contract contains the provision of \$35,000.00 for architectural service, not to exceed construction cost of \$423,700.00. The tax district may need to borrow some funds to accomplish this project. The Board Attorney recommended that the contract also be ratified under the Special Tax District for the funding.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the Sun'n Lake design-build fire station contract with Halfacre Construction Co. The Chair called for public input on the motion. No one spoke for or against the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 83.

D. Board Attorney: Interlocal Agreement with City of Sebring for Home Depot, Inc.

Mr. Macbeth reviewed the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring for the 2000 Economic Development project, Home Depot, Inc. The agreement proposes, that once the infrastructure for this development is constructed, it will be accepted by the City of Sebring. This agreement must be approved by the City and is required to be included in the Economic Development application to the Department of Community Affairs. A later third party agreement will be offered once the grant is approved. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Interlocal Agreement between Highlands County and the City of Sebring for the proposed Home Depot grant application. Commissioner Maxcy presented discussion regarding liability the grant could cause to the County, and concern about the amount of staff time. The Commissioners discussed the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring for the infrastructure and the liability exposure. David Heacock, Housing Director, advised that this is the first step of the process, and there will be other agreements to protect the County. The City of Sebring tabled the motion on the agreement because only four members were in attendance, and they knew it would be a tie vote. John Borgemeister spoke in favor of the application. The Board Attorney stated that the agreement has been revised and the Board members should review the agreement. Commissioner Bullard stated that he did not feel comfortable approving the agreement before he reviews the changes. Commissioner Stokes withdrew his motion and Commissioner Gose withdrew the second. This item will be reconsidered on July 18, 2000. See SMB 37 Page 84.

E. County Administrator:

1. Resolution on Vaughn Road Bridge

Carl Cool spoke in opposition to DOT replacing the Vaughn Road Bridge until something is decided on the Hammock Park and the north south east west corridors around the park. Commissioner Bullard proposed an amendment to the Resolution, in the fourth paragraph, reading, whereas the Highlands Hammock State Park has acquired the land on both sides of Vaughn Road; adding language; and is in the process of establishing a long range plan for utilization of this land. In the fifth paragraph, reading, now, therefore, be it resolved that the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners does hereby request that the Florida Department of Transportation should not expend the funds designated for the design or replacement of Vaughn Road Bridge No. 094034; adding language: at this time.

The Board discussed the future road extension, and the County Administrator was directed to meet with Capt. Anderson to discuss the park's plans for the future.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution requesting that Florida Department of Transportation not expend funds designated for the design or replacement of Vaughn Road Bridge No. 094034 with modification as stated. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 28.

Break 10:40 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

2. Contracts with Florida Recycling Services and Reliable Sanitation

Carl Cool presented contracts to the Commission with vendors, Florida Recycling Services and Reliable Sanitation. Ross Macbeth noted that the vendors may extend the contracts after five years for an additional five years at the same rates. Commissioner Bullard discussed the language that will allow the contracts extension. He felt that the Board is not allowing any possibility for advancement in technology that could reduce the method of picking up waste. Ross Macbeth suggested that the Board make a change in Section seven to satisfy his objection, with language to read: The contract maybe extended by the collector for an additional term not to exceed five years. Commissioner Gose spoke in favor of the Board being able to extend the contract after five years if they wish.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve Solid Waste Collection Franchise Contracts with Florida Recycling Services and Reliable Sanitation, effective October 1, 2000. with modification to the language as stated. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Recommendation on Lake Henry / Lake June Canal

The County Administrator presented recommendation to accept the estimate from Don Greenhalgh that includes digging the Lake Henry Canal, deepening the bottom and hauling material. He proposes two options to prevent the property owner's seawall from collapsing. The first would be packing sand bags along the seawall side or pouring a concrete footer at the base of the seawall. His estimate is \$4,900 and an additional \$3,000 for work on the protection of the seawall.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve expenditure of funds to allow Don Greenhalgh to do the work with the sandbags providing he use 20% concrete mixture in each bag. Mr. Macbeth stated concerns if the seawall collapses as a result of the work by county employees. If the seawall is

within county right of way, the county may have recourse to require him to move it and reduce our exposure. Commissioner Bullard included in his motion that written notice be sent to the property owner that the seawall is located on county right of way and it needs to be moved back to the property line and stabilized. In the interim, he has 30 days to comply with the law. In the meantime, the county will be digging out the canal, to keep it navigable and to temporarily stabilize the seawall. Commissioner Maxcy stated concerns for setting precedent. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 85.

Consent agenda item 10-Resolution on Lakes Appreciation Week

The Chair read the resolution into the record and commended Mary Carter and other supporters for their contributions toward preservation and protection of the lakes in Highlands County. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution, proclaiming July 2nd through July 9th as "Lakes Appreciation Week" for Highlands County. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 29.

4. Recommendation on old Lake Placid landfill

Carl Cool presented recommendations for the old Town of Lake Placid closed landfill as a site for flying model aircraft. Commissioner Bullard had been approached by citizens in the Lake Placid area needing a place to fly model aircraft. The idea has been discussed with the Town of Lake Placid. The Town Council has asked for a specific request from the Board of County Commissioners. After reviewing the site with the Road and Bridge Superintendent and Commissioner Bullard, recommendations were resented for review:

- A transfer of ownership agreement between the Town and the Board is drafted for both elected bodies to consider.
- An estimated cost of \$15,000 be included in the 2000/2001 Capital Improvement Plan to cover the costs of the fill needed, along with approximately one week of chopping and mowing.
- Adequate public comments be allowed from the surrounding neighborhood to listen to the concerns of the residents in the area before the Board commits to accepting ownership of the old landfill.

Mr. Cool noted that some complaints have been received regarding the noise. The Board Attorney discussed the issue of future potential liability to Highlands County and recommended that the Town remain the owners of the property with the county providing funding. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the Board providing the funding with the property title remaining with the Town of Lake Placid. The consensus of the Board was to send this issue before the Recreation Committee for their recommendation. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Irvin Barber, a member of the Radio Control Club, spoke in favor of a facility in Lake Placid. Carl Cool recommended that any surplus sand that the county has be deposited at the site for future consideration of the site. See SMB 37 Page 86.

6. Resolution to establish public hearing-Lake June Vista

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt a Resolution setting the Public hearing date as July 25, 2000, to consider closing a portion of Lake June Vista Road. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 30.

F. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as

amended:

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits**

General	2,102,592.11
County Transportation	218,363.43
E911 Operations	3,339.30
Intergovt Radio Communications	501.23
Local Govt Infra Surtax	18,897.93
Community Development Block	71,486.59
Affordable Housing Assistance	26,141.38
Special Law Enforcement	17,184.74
Solid Waste	172,729.95
Placid Utilities	9,194.69
Highway Park Utility	3,365.17
Risk Retention Fund	106.30
Employee Benefit	30,360.38
2. **Approval of minutes of 6-13-00 and 6-20-00 meetings**
3. **Approval to sell tax certificates - Levingstone. See SMB 37 Page 87.**
4. **Approval of salvage offer from Jim’s Truck & Auto Salvage in the amount of \$589.00 on vehicle LF35. See SMB 37 Page 88.**
5. **Accept into record - Salvation Army Annual Report. See Salvation Army file.**
6. **Approval of SHIP Satisfaction of Mortgage - Foster. See SMB 37 Page 89.**
7. **Approval of resolution in support of grant for Florida Heartland Heritage Foundation. See Res. Book 14 Page 31.**
8. **Approval of Hospital District grant agreements. (Highlands County Health Department for Dental Equipment) Children’s Services Foundation for eye checks) Highlands Children’s Advocacy Center (medical exams for abused children) Highlands County School Readiness Coalition, (physical exams and dental services for children Florida Health Kids Corporation). See Hospital District file.**
9. **Approval to waive insurance requirement for Housing Assistance Plan - Olmo. See SMB 37 Page 90.**
10. ~~**Approval of resolution on “Lakes Appreciation Week.”**~~
11. **Approval to accept and record Quit Claim Deed - Corvette Avenue South and record deed. See SMB 37 Page 91.**
12. **Approval to rename Hairpin Drive to Croseley Lane. See SMB 37 Page 92.**
13. **Approval to execute drainage easement structure deed for the installation and maintenance of drainage structures and return existing easement to owner. See SMB 37 Page 93.**
14. **Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-287 (EMS matching grant to purchase modular ambulance and one stretcher for EMS) and 99-00-288 (unanticipated funding for payoff of existing mortgages). See Res. Book 14 Page 32.**
15. **Approval of budget amendments 99-00-274(Sebring Public Library, registration for Director and overtime FICA & Benefits) 99-00-275 (overtime for holidays at HL**

Bishop Park) 99-00-276 (Weed Control OPS and telephone services) 99-00-280(Sheriff equipment purchase) 99-00-283(SAVE Program-Central Services) 99-00-284) Facilities Management, Courthouse Facilities) 99-00-285 (Commodity facility renovation) 99-00-286 (Veterans Services OPS) 99-00-289 (Refuse System and Solid Waste) 99-00-290(Animal Control) 99-00-291 (Recycling Operations, Recycling Grant) 99-00-292(Engineering old bucket truck transfer to Facilities Management) 99-00-296 (Sheriff’s North Tower Emergency Generator) 99-00-297 (SHIP grant expenditures) 99-00-298 (Public Administration overtime cost).

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Richard Conover requested that the Commissioners ask the Sheriff’s Department to be present at all board meetings for safety sake. The Chair advised that the Board will present the request to the Sheriff’s Department.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Maxcy reported that he will not be able to attend the meeting on Tuesday, July 18th, as he will be in Charlotte, North Carolina attending the NACo conference. He requested that the Board give him the authority to cast ballots on behalf of the Commission. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to give authority to the Chair to draft two letters, one giving Commissioner Maxcy authority to vote for Rudy Malloy, and the other to give Mr. Maxcy the Commissioners’ proxy to vote on the Board’s behalf on NACo issues. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD, JULY 11, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
Edgar E. Stokes	Carl Cool
Bob Bullard	J Ross Macbeth
James L Gose	Louise Graham

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Sheriff:

No report presented.

B. Clerk

No report presented.

C. Upcoming meetings:

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **Workshop on Handyperson Ordinance**

S. Y. Mosley, Building Official, presented recommendations of the Construction Licensing, Enforcement and Appeals Board from their meeting on May 23, 2000. Charles Dorman, Chairman of the Board, stated that the primary concern was that the ordinance allowed people to do work that they believe should require speciality license for that trade. He also discussed the Handyperson ordinance and definitions found in Chapter 489.105, Florida Statutes, as to what is allowed. He suggested that we reduce the scope of work allowed under the ordinance including swimming pools, spas and air conditioning, while increasing the scope of experience required by the ordinance. The Board also wants to show at least one-year's experience in five disciplines, not just one as currently required. Ross Macbeth presented *a redlined draft* that incorporated the proposed changes reflected in the minutes of the workshop of the Construction Licensing, Enforcement and Appeals Board. See SMB 37 Page 95 for copy.

Commissioner Guy Maxcy arrived at the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Commissioner Bullard stated concerns that we are seeing a discussion of original concerns and the potential for problems. We have no history of handymen licensed under this ordinance out doing work.

He did not favor changing the job cost limit from \$1,000 to \$500, without showing problems it created. Carl Cool and S.Y. Mosley, Building Official, stated that no complaints have been filed in their office.

The Chair opened the floor to the public for input on the specific changes:

- Gene Canevari, owner of C & C Plumbing spoke regarding problems, and asked that the Board limit the scope of work a handyman can do.
- Brian Fassler, Plumber, spoke in favor of limiting the \$1,000 amount to \$500 per job.
- Robert Moody, Moody's Air Conditioning, stated that allowing any kind of air-conditioning equipment work to be done by an unlicensed electrician opens the door for a great amount of electrical liability.
- Michael Carr, a member of the Board, spoke regarding the problems associated with the handyman ordinance.
- Keith Renish asked that suggestions be placed in writing and presented to the Construction Licensing, and Enforcement Board for review. He also was in favor of the \$500 limit per job.
- Bill Johnson, Board member, spoke in favor of the changes to the ordinance.

Commissioner Bullard asked if handymen can perform plumbing and air-conditioning work outside of their expertise. Ross Macbeth said that regulations don't expressly prohibit it, but the intent of the handyman license was to allow men and women to do work of an inconsequential nature that doesn't require a building permit.

The consensus of the Board was to set a public hearing date for August 22, 2000 to review the recommendations of the Construction Licensing, and Enforcement Board to amend the ordinance. Ross Macbeth spoke in favor of the \$1000 limit per job for the handyman.

Break 10:30 10:45 a.m.

2. 2000-2001 Budget presentation

Carl Cool presented a letter into the record, submitting a balanced proposed budget within the priorities set by the Board. The budget submitted is proposed at 8.5 mills, the same millage as the last six years. The grand total net Budget is listed at \$79,351,796. This represents five million dollars of roll over projects, such as the Fairmount Drive, Phase I of the Sebring Parkway, and the Dall Hall Boulevard project. He requested the Board review the budget and discussion will continue next month. See Budget file for copy. Rick Helms reviewed highlights of the budget. Rick stated that a 12% increase was programed into our insurance premiums. His office will be providing a budget scenario with a reduction to the budget if we were to implement the additional homestead exemption. Next week information will be provided to certify the millage rate. A date will also need to be set to hear discussion on agency funding. Commissioner Gose spoke in favor of increased funding for the New Hope Agency.

3. Keith Kolasa, Southwest Florida Water Management District: Report on Lake Persimmon

Keith Kolasa, Southwest Florida Water Management District, made a presentation to the Board on Lake Persimmon. He stated that the lake suffers from unnaturally high levels of nutrients and algae. Water quality in the lake is ranked as one of the poorest among all lakes of its type. These concerns led to the original water quality investigation which includes a survey of historical records, reconstruction of water quality, and measurement of ground water quality around Lake Persimmon. He asked that the Board provide cooperative

funding in fiscal year 2001 to solve the problems identified by this investigation. The total cost is listed at \$75,000 to be split between the Basin Board and the County. Clell Ford will be bringing an agreement to the Board. Commissioner Bullard questioned the other projects such as the best management practices on the yards, canal and other programs. Keith stated that these projects may be addressed in the future under another proposal. Clell Ford advised that the answer is to remove the nitrates from the watershed and that is a long term process, but we need to get started. There are other funds available for future funding. Commissioner Stokes suggested that we stop the problem and not look for a short term fix. See SMB 37 Page 96.

The chair opened the floor to the public. Skip Dent, a resident of Lake Persimmon, Paul Orth, and Mary Carter, representing the Lakes Association presented suggestions for treatment of the lake and requested the County support the Water Management District in their efforts.

7. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to set the Action agenda with addition of Resolution and Financial Agreement with the Hospital District and the Healthy Kids Corporation as item number 7-C. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve payment of employee benefits in the amount \$ 67,708.61. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval of tentative rate resolution - Sun 'n Lake Estates and Acreage of Lake Placid Special Benefit District

Treasa Handley, Assessment Coordinator, presented a petition to adopt a tentative assessment rate to be implemented for the purpose of providing for borrowing capabilities; ownership and disposition of property; fire protection; issuance of bonds and revenue certificates; and such other purposes as may be appropriate.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt tentative rate resolution for the district, setting the assessment at \$20.00 per unimproved platted lot, \$20.00 per residential unit, \$15.00 per commercial structure, and \$20.00 per space within a rental mobile home park or campground. The Chair noted that he has a problem with the \$20.00 assessment per unimproved platted lot. Ross Macbeth advised that it is quite remarkable in comparison to other districts, as it is the same as other residential dwelling districts. Carl Cool stated that these rates are being proposed by the residents, not the vacant lot owners. A public hearing will be held and the board may choose not to charge these rates. Commissioner Gose asked if the budget was presented with these rates. Tim Eures stated that the budget was submitted with last years' revenue figure, and there will be a difference of approximately \$40,000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Flowers, who voted nay. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 33.

C. Approval of Resolution of the Highlands County Hospital Board approving and recommending the signing of a proposed Financial Agreement between the Hospital

District and the Healthy Kids Corporation

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve execution of the Financial Agreement between Florida Healthy Kids Corporation and the Hospital District, providing for the transfer of funds and monthly payments to healthy Kids. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Hospital District file for copy.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, JULY 18, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
Edgar E Stokes	Carl Cool
Bob Bullard	J Ross Macbeth
James L Gose	Louise Graham

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Human Services Director, Kevin Roberts. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

Commissioner Maxcy was not present for the meeting. He was attending the National Association of Counties Conference in North Carolina.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending July 18, 2000. The Farm Report was also given for June.

- B. **Clerk**

No report presented.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action Agenda as follows:

Delete Item G-1 to be heard at a later date.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

- A. **Capt. Peter Anderson, Highlands Hammock: Master Plan update and Vaughn Road bridge**

Capt. Peter Anderson presented the Master Plan update for the Park. He stated that throughout the planning for the park the idea has always been that Vaughn Road would be closed to thru traffic. When the Resolution was adopted in 1990, by the Board of County Commissioners, the state acquired property on both sides of the road, so the planing process went toward the effect of closing the road. The Plan is not complete. At this point the state is about six months into the planning and is estimated to take another six months to complete. The Governor and Cabinet will have to approve the Plan. The plan is to provide horseback riding on the property once owned by Judge Young, extensive hiking trails and a wildlife observation platform. A parking area will be located near the Vaughn Road Bridge, assuming that the road will be closed, prior to that. A resident may be located on the property for security and protection. There is an extensive resource

management program that is in the process of development and a burn plan for the property, along with an exotic removal plan. Park officials are also looking at the roads to make a decision on which should be used. There are real concerns about water problem in that area, and the flow to Charlie Creek. They are also considering an educational area in the five-year plan, and when completed, expect to be a very popular area.

Carl Cool explained the process with DOT for replacing the bridge on Vaughn Road. Commissioner Gose spoke regarding the 635 extension and the suggestion from Golf Hammock residents to change the plan. Capt. Anderson stated that it would not be good for the Park. Commissioner Stokes spoke in favor of closing Vaughn Road and continuing with the road extension. Carl Cool asked that a meeting be set up to negotiate the extension with park officials and request that Mr. Morey from Golf Hammock bring his ideas to the table. Commissioner Gose suggested a Resolution be sent to DOT asking that funds be diverted from the Vaughn Road bridge toward a new east west road corridor. Commissioner Bullard questioned if the Board has set a public hearing to close Vaughn Road. Ross Macbeth stated that research must be determined to see if the property would revert back to the Youngs. He advised that the best solution may be to transfer by deed the County's interest in Vaughn Road to the trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, who now owns the land on both sides, just as the Youngs did and reserve whatever easements are required for maintenance. The consensus of the Board was to request that the County Administrator prepare a Resolution to DOT, asking that they eliminate the construction of the bridge and that funds be diverted for a possible north south or east west corridor. The Chair reiterated that the road will be closed to thru traffic only, not to the public. The County Administrator to set up a meeting with staff, DOT, and all representatives to formulate ideas regarding road right of ways. The Resolution will be presented at the next regular meeting.

B. Linda Moore: Heart of Florida Legal Aid Society update

Kevin Roberts, Human Services Director, advised that the Legal Aid Society has been in existence in Highlands County for six months and have only spent \$17,000. The Board enacted an ordinance that will fund approximately \$50,000 per year. At this rate, by the end of the year, we will be under budget by \$15,000. Mr. Roberts spoke in support of the program and the legal work that is being done. Linda Moore, representing the Heart of Florida Legal Aid Society, presented an update on the legal aid program services in Highlands County during the first six months of operation. See SMB 37 Page 97.

C. Bryan Williams, FDOT: Presentation on workshop for Sebring Parkway

Scott McCalla, representing Bryan Williams, FDOT, advised that a workshop regarding the proposed Sebring Parkway from US 27 North Ridgewood Drive (CR 17 A) will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 2000, at the Fred Wild Elementary School, between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. Roy Chapman, Consultant, presented a brief overview on Phase II, Sebring Parkway.

The proposed project consists of the four-lane construction of Sebring Parkway. The project begins at US 27 and Highlands Avenue, following Highlands Avenue north to the vicinity of Sheriff's Tower Road, and then continues northwest along Eucalyptus Street to North Ridgewood Drive (CR 17A), a distance of approximately 2.7 miles. Mr. Chapman explained Alternative 1, 2, and 3 of the project. Refer to FDOT file for copy.

D. County Engineer: Priorities for DOT TEA 21 Program and Landscape Program

The County Engineer reported that the Florida Department of Transportation's three projects submitted for

TEA-21 and one project for Highway System Streetscape Grant District One Landscape Program funding have been deemed eligible. The three projects must now be ranked in priority order for transmittal to the Department. The three project sponsors made presentations to the Board of County Commissioners in favor of their project.

Vicki Pontius, Operations Manager and Merritt O’Brien, representing the Greenways Trails plan, spoke in favor of the College-Drive/Memorial Drive Plan. Dan Andrews and Gabriel Read also spoke in favor of the plan. Mr. Dennis White, representing the Sun’n Lake Improvement District, spoke in favor of funding the Sun’n Lake Entrance. Mike Eisenhart, “Keep Highlands County Beautiful,” spoke in favor of the City of Sebring projects.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to rank the projects in priority order as listed for transmittal to the Department:

TEA-21

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Sponsor</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Total</u>
College-Drive/Memorial Dr.	Highlands County		0	\$423,035.00
US 27 from City of Sebring limits near Taubert Street northward to DeSoto Road	City of Sebring**		0	\$300,000.00
Sun ‘n Lake Boulevard Enhancement	Sun ‘n Lake Improvement District of Sebring/HCBOCC*	\$20,000.00		\$ 75,000.00

HIGHWAY SYSTEM STREETScape GRANT DISTRICT ONE LANDSCAPE PROGRAM

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Project Sponsor</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sun ‘n Lake Entrance Restoration	Sun ‘n Lake Improvement District of Sebring/HCBOCC*	\$7,500.00		\$ 25,000.00
US 27 from the northerly boundary of the City of Sebring to north of US 27 and Fairmount Drive	City of Sebring**		0	\$200,000.00

The Chair opened the floor to the public. C. B. Shirey, City Manager of Avon Park, spoke in favor of the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See FDOT file for copy.

Break 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

E. Assistant County Administrator:

1. Building Use Committee recommendations

Tom Portz presented committee recommendations on two different facility requests as listed:

- 4) Request to waive the fee for Heartland Cultural Alliance for a candidate forum be denied.
- 5) Request from the Humane Society to waive the fee for a horse show at the Agri-Civic Center be approved, subject to insurance and safety requirements being in place, and approved by Mr. Fiyalko and Mr. Hogue.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve recommendations of the Building Use Committee as stated. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 98.

2. Discussion of taxicab regulation

Tom Portz presented discussion concerning regulation of taxi cabs. Several counties were contacted as to whether they have taxicab regulations. Seven of the counties have no regulations. Hillsborough County does regulate the operation of taxicabs. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Mr. Anthony Richardson, a resident from Illinois, addressed the board in favor of taxicab regulations. The Board discussed the issue and informed Mr. Richardson that he is free to open his own business, and he may use the meters in his vehicles, but at this time, they do not wish to place regulations on taxicab owners. Teresa Cordavona, owner of the Yellow Cab Co., explained the operation of her company, and the necessary fees. No action was taken. See Taxicab file for copy.

F. Board Attorney: Interlocal Agreement with City of Sebring for Home Depot, Inc.

Ross Macbeth reviewed the Interlocal Agreement with the Board, clarifying responsibilities concerning the county's proposed fiscal year 2000 Economic Development Project for the Home Depot, Inc. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to execute Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring for this project. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

G. County Administrator:

1. Agreement with City of Sebring on recreation facilities

Item deleted.

2. Certification of Taxable Value

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to certify the millage at 8.5 mills. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 99 for copy. Commissioner Bullard reminded the Commission that we need to inform the public that when we start discussing the additional homestead exemption for residents more than 65 years of age with an adjusted gross income of less than \$20,000 that we will be cutting services, and that we could be giving up an additional road deputy or an ambulance, because there will be no room in a balanced budget once you cap revenue.

3. Budget amendment 99-00-301

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve budget amendment 99-00-301 to transfer funds into the Court Appointed Attorney Civil Account from the Reserve to cover Court appointed cases for the remainder of FY 99-00. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

H. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Consent agenda as listed:

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits**

Law Library	853.76
General	523,400.43
County Transportation Trust	29,846.46
E911 Operations	17,292.63
Intergovt Radio Communications	3,349.00
Law Enforcement Education	4,850.33
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	133,087.21
Community Development Block	2,250.00
Affordable Housing Assistance	31,378.00
Government Center	1,753.93
Solid Waste	45,521.71
Placid Utilities	5,846.92
Highway Park Utility	439.08
Risk Retention Fund	469.78
Employee Benefit	129,476.94
Highlands Hosp Pass Thru	26,700.00
2. **Approval of minutes of 6-27-00, 7-5-00 meetings**
3. **Accept into record - June Monthly Report**
4. **Approval to sell tax certificate 99-549. See SMB 37 Page 100.**
5. **Approval to execute lease agreement for Peace River Center Domestic Violence Shelter.**
6. **Approval of grant agreement between Hospital District and SFCC Foundation, Inc. for the Jim Clinard Nursing Scholarship Fund. See Hospital District file for copy.**
7. **Appointment of Mr. Mark Andrews to the Insurance Committee. See SMB 37 Page 10l for copy of resume.**
8. **Approval of change order #2, Vantage Point-Thunderbird Hills drainage project. See Vantage Point file.**
9. **Approval of budget amendments 99-00-299 (fuel price increases) and 99-00-304 (Road and Bridge other salaries and wages account).**
10. **Approval of resolution and budget amendment 99-00-305 (labor and equipment for entry road and additional parking at Sun'n Lake Elementary School). See Res. Book 14 Page 34.**
11. **Adoption of resolution to continue charge for 911 system. See Res. Book 14 Page 35.**
12. **Approval of change orders no. 9 and no.1 for Sebring Library renovation with E.O. Koch Construction. See Library file for copy.**
13. **Approval of contract with Short Utility Service, Inc. for operation and maintenance services for the Placid Utilities Water/Waster facilities and Highway Park Utilities.**
14. **Approval to refile amended Declaration of Closure for Avon Park landfill. See Landfill file for copy.**

15. Approval of holiday garbage collection schedule. See Landfill file for copy.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Bill Brown, representing the Saint Francis Episcopal Church, read a letter into the record from Judy Filler, Clerk of the Vestry, thanking the Commissioners for their support in extending the Lake June Vista road and eliminating the necessity of accessing US 27 by means of a dangerous intersection. See SMB 37 Page 102. Jim Cash of Lake Placid also thanked the Florida Hospital, for donating land for the road and Performance Marine for their contribution.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Florida Association of Counties position

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to appoint Chair David Flowers to the Board of Director's position on the Florida Association of Counties Board. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Request report on out of county meetings

The Chair requested that Commissioners report on out of county meetings, either with a verbal report at the Board meetings, or a written report to enlighten the public of the benefits received.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, AUGUST 1, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Clerk of Court, L.E. "Luke" Brooker. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending August 1, 2000. Lt. Benton also read a letter into the record informing the Sheriff that Highlands County has been awarded a 2000-2001 Victims of Crime Act Grant in the amount of \$49,970.00. This Grant is awarded in recognition of the commitment to serve the needs of Florida's innocent crime victims.

- B. Clerk**

L. E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts, presented an update on the window restoration project at the Courthouse. The project has been completed and he thanked the Commission for their efforts. Mr. Brooker also gave an update on jury trials in Highlands County, and the Marriage License Department.

- C. Upcoming meetings:**

1. Carl Cool, County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.
2. Tom Portz presented an update on the E-911 Operations move to the new facility.
3. Lisa Burly reported that Highlands County is participating in the "family fun fest" at the Lakeshore Mall on Friday and Saturday, August 4 and 5, 2000. A computer monitor will be set up with slides showing *County Government in Action*. Handouts will be given from various departments. Local businesses have contributed more than \$600 in prizes to be given away.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action Agenda as listed:

- A. Remove item D-5 under the County Administrator.
- B. Add appointment to the Hospital District Board under Commissioners.
- C. Add Fair Board request under Carl Cool as D-5.

D. Add discussion of a noise ordinance under Commissioner Stokes.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Director of Accounting and Finance: Recommendation for banking services

Luke Brooker, Clerk of Courts, advised that the Board had approved in February to form a banking services selection committee. The five member committee was made up of Tom Portz, Rick Helms, Jed Secory, Bob Jamison, and Mike Eastman, as the Chair. The County Administrator complimented the Clerk of Courts for inviting the Board to be a part of the negotiation and selection of the banking services.

C. Michael Eastman, Chair of the Committee, presented the recommendation of the committee on banking services for Highlands County. An RFP was issued to all the banks in the County. Three banks responded with a proposal (Bank of America, First Union, and Huntington). Each banking institution gave a presentation before the committee on the services that they could provide. The unanimous choice of the Committee was to recommend that the County remain with Bank of America, with their five-year freeze on rates. This recommendation was also made to the Clerk of Courts.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to accept the recommendation from the banking committee and accept Bank of America as the bank of record for Highlands County Board of County Commissioners. The Board Attorney stated one concern in the interpretation of the agreement and the standard bank forms for the various services. He recommended that these items should be reviewed and be consistent with the RFP and the response, so that we are getting what we expected. Commissioner Gose and Commissioner Maxcy accepted the recommendations as a part of the motion and the second. Mike Eastman advised that there is a time period from August 1st to August 11th for negotiation with the bank. There will be no changes for the Board and the implementation date for the Clerk is October 1, 2000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 107.

B. Discussion on County Administrator’s annual evaluations

The annual performance evaluations were received from the Commissioners on the County Administrator. The Commission discussed the evaluation scores ranked by each commissioner as follows:

Commissioner Bullard	91.7
Commissioner Stokes	90.33
Commissioner Maxcy	86.33
Commissioner Gose	92.
Chairman Flowers	89.5

Commissioner Bullard recommended that the Board set up a system for ranking the County Administrator, with ranges compatible to the other County employees, wherein the cumulate scores are 90 to 100, the County Administrator will receive a 3 percent merit increase, from 80 to 90 would rate a 2 percent raise and 70 to 80, a 1 percent raise. Below 70, there would be no raise. The policy will keep politics or public pressure out of the situation and the timing is correct in regards to the budget adoption. Per this calculation,

Mr. Cool will receive a 2 percent salary increase effective with the implementation of merit raises for all other Board employees. Commissioner Maxcy was in favor of the merit system, but thought it should be treated the same as other County employees. Chair Flowers advised that the Commission is giving Mr. Cool a vote of confidence with the ranking, and it also gives him the initiative to bring that score higher next year. The Board will schedule a workshop on goal setting and ask that public input be received. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt the new uniform system for figuring merit increases. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Gabriel Read spoke regarding the effect of the increase on the lower paid employees. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See County Administrator file for copy.

C. Board Attorney

No report presented.

D. County Administrator:

1. Budget amendment 99-00-316 for Medical Examiner

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendment 99-00-316 to cover the balance of FY 99-00 for Central Florida Removal Services for transport cases to the Medical Examiner's office. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Recommendation on Intergovernmental Coordination Element Advisory Committee

Carl Cool presented recommendations on the Intergovernmental Coordination Element Advisory Committee. He suggested that staff write each governmental unit or agency and ask for them to appoint a member that will serve from 10-01-00 until 09-30-01. This appointment will then be remade annually by each entity supplying a committee member. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the appointment of an Intergovernmental Coordination Element (ICE) Advisory Committee with membership as directed by the Highlands County Comp Plan, where each governmental unit or agency appoints their representative for a one year term starting October 1, 2000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 108.

3. Proposed code of conduct for volunteers

Carl Cool reviewed a draft of a proposed Code of Conduct for people serving on appointed boards and committees. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt the draft of the proposed "Code of Conduct" for serving on Commissions, Committees, Boards and Panels appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Clayton Womer asked that committee members not be restricted in their membership. Fred Tagtemeier spoke in favor of the Code of Conduct. John Williams, Hank Kowalski, and Gabriel Read spoke in opposition. Commissioner Stokes presented a statement into the record identifying his position as liaison to the Commission. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 109 for copy.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to go on record in support of the job that Commissioner Stokes is doing, and request that he continue as liaison to the Natural Resources Advisory Commission. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

4. Presentation of deeds on 196th Terrace

Carl Cool presented the deeds for 196th Terrace, with request to accept the right of way for recording and accept the road as a county-maintained road, and have the County Road Department take care of the road with shell added as needed. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to accept the deeds for recording and approve acceptance of this road for County maintenance. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 110.

5. Proposed hunting site at Edna Pearce Lockett property

Item deleted.

6. Highlands County Fair Association request

The County Administrator presented request of Curtis Weldy, representing the Highlands County Fair Association, for the County to provide 20 loads of shell rock delivered and graded for parking lot improvements at the Highlands County Fairgrounds. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the request to provide the parking lot improvements at the schedule to be determined by the Road and Bridge Department. Upon roll, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 111.

E. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the Consent agenda as listed with inclusion of employee benefits for August 8, 2000.

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits

Law Library	99.33
General	1,682,954.32
County Transportation Trust	58,909.71
E911 Operations	1,483.51
Intergovt Radio Communications	501.23
Law Enforcement Education	4,815.33
Local Govt Infra Surtax	69,035.88
Affordable Housing Assistance	67,919.79
Special Law Enforcement	1,088.11
Solid Waste	49,408.87
Placid Utilities	1,718.91
Highway Park Utility	2,848.80
Risk Retention Fund	3.18
Employee Benefit	53,724.27

Approval of minutes of 07-11-00 and 07-18-00 meetings

2. Approval to execute and record Subordination Agreement - Retana. See SMB 37 Page 112.

3. Approval of Adopt a Highway Agreement - Lake Placid Rotary InterAct Club. See file for copy.

5. **Accept into record - Lakeshore Mall annual status report. See file for copy.**
6. **Approval to pay invoice without purchase order - Road & Bridge Dept. for South West Vista Drive asphalt. See SMB 37 Page 113.**
7. **Approval to record plat - Prime Resources Subdivision. See SMB 37 Page 114.**
8. **Approval to execute resolution on Vaughn Road bridge. See Res. Book 14 Page 41.**
9. **Approval of resolution and budget amendment 99-00-322 (Home Repair and Down Payment Program). See Res. Book 14 Page 42.**
10. **Approval of budget amendments 99-00-307 (Zoning Dept. Computer purchase and microsoft access for garage sale database) 99-00-308 (processing of waste tires) 99-00-309 (emergency home repair) 99-00-310 (Highway Safety overtime) 99-00-312 (Landfill Scalehouse modification) 99-00-315 (Board Attorney account) 99-00-317 (Road & Bridge signal account and repair to facilities) 99-00-318 (VFD monies for education & training) 99-00-320 (E911 Program) 99-00-325 (911 tower maintenance) 99-00-326 (Senior Citizen Tax Work Off Program). See SMB 37 Page 115.**
11. **Approval of amendment to agreement with The Nature Conservancy for land acquisition.**

Commissioner Bullard requested that staff consider processing budget amendments on the computer, when possible, to achieve a better looking document. The County Administrator concurred with this idea. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Richard Conover suggested that the County Commission set joint workshops with other City Council Boards. Commissioner Bullard stated that the new Intergovernmental Coordinating Advisory Committee will inform the Commission if they feel this is a wise course.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Gose - Appointment Hospital Board

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to ratify the appointment of Selvin McGahee to fill the unexpired term of Bruce Lybarger, who resigned from the Hospital Board. Commissioner Bullard requested that Mr. McGahee be given a copy of the new code of conduct. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 116 for copy of resume.

Gose - Health Department Review Board for new administrator

Commissioner Gose updated the Board regarding the selection committee to find a new administrator. The committee met and there was discussion regarding the requirement that the position be held by a medical doctor. The advertisement was placed with a medical doctor preferred, but not required. The Chair asked that Commissioner Gose update the Board on the recommendation of the committee before finalization.

Stokes - Noise Ordinance

Commissioner Stokes recommended that the Board discuss again the adoption of a noise ordinance. Commissioner Gose asked that this item be deferred until after November to allow time for the new

Commissioner to be on board to present new ideas. Mr. Cool stated that the workshop can be scheduled for December or January. The consensus of the Board was to instruct staff to contact other counties for information.

Commissioner Maxcy - Florida Association of Counties

Commissioner Maxcy reported that Carol Bracy of the Florida Association of Counties will be giving the Commission a brief overview on issues later in the month.

Commissioner Bullard thanked citizens for their participation at board meetings.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, AUGUST 15, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending August 15, 2000. The Farm Report for the month of July was also given.

- B. **Clerk:**

No report was given.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

County Administrator Carl Cool, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Mr. Cool advised that he and Ramon Gavarrete will attend the Sebring City Council meeting to discuss the Small County Road Assistance Program. The County Administrator also mentioned several complimentary letters to staff from the Property Owners Associations, regarding projects completed. Commissioner Flowers recommended that Mr. Cool maintain close communications with Hardee County concerning the proposed airport to be constructed and consideration for a east west corridor. The Chair advised that he has received a request for a joint meeting with the School Board, regarding the impact of Phase II, Sebring Parkway on the Fred Wild Elementary School. The consensus of the Board was to attend a joint meeting set for Friday, August 25, 2000 at 9:30 A.M. at the School Board Chambers with the Board Attorney present.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action Agenda as listed:

- Delete Consent agenda item H-9
- Sheriff's replacement request for Consent agenda item H-11
- Remove Consent agenda item H-4 and place under the Board Attorney
- Payment of invoice to Sky Asset Management to be placed under item D. (Asst. County Administrator).

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Public hearing to consider resolutions on Bay and Lee County Housing Bond Programs:

Proof of Publication entered into the record. See SMB 37 Page 119. David Heacock, Housing Coordinator, advised that Highlands County has again been asked to participate in the Single Family Housing Bond Program. For the past four years, this invitation came from Raymond James and Associates, Inc. and Highlands County was unsuccessful in obtaining this additional Bond funding. This year, Mr. Ralph W. Cellon, Jr. has become associated with another company; Morgan Keegan, that provides similar services. The Morgan Keegan program is with Bay County's Housing Bond Program. Staff had initially advised that our opportunities for funding will increase by applying for both programs, however the Division of Board Finance, Department of Administration, indicated that this is not true and our application could be turned down. Staff has met with both programs and is recommending submission of a request to use either program. Phil Harlow of Raymond James and Associates, spoke in favor of using the Lee County program, and stated that submitting to both programs gave a better chance of getting selected.

The Chair opened the second public hearing. Ralph Cellon, representing Morgan Keegan program from Bay County asked the Board to give the people who are experienced with the programs a chance for funding. In the event that the Board chooses to split the application, he would like Bay county to be the lead in charge of the administration. The Chair opened the floor for public input. Phil Harlow stated that Lee County has done a good job with the application. The problem is that the larger counties with more population gets the consideration. The County Administrator spoke in favor of using Ralph Cellon with the Morgan Keegan program.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution approving a joint program with the Housing Finance Authority of Bay County, Florida for the issuance of single family mortgage revenue bonds. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Bay County Bond file. The Chair closed the public hearings at 9:50 a.m.

A. (9:30 a.m.) Presentation by legislators: check for FRDAP grant for DeSoto City ballfield:

The Chair welcomed Representative Joe Spratt, and Larry Ford, aide to Senator Laurent, to the meeting. Rep. Spratt presented a check in the amount of \$50,000 for the FRDAP grant to be used for the DeSoto City ballfield. A check was also presented for renovation of the Courthouse in the amount of \$1,450,000.00. The Board thanked Rep. Spratt and Senator Laurent for their representation of Highlands County.

C. County Engineer:

1. Appointments to Placid Utilities Advisory Committee

Ramon Gavarrete presented recommendation to the Commission on appointments. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to extend the terms of Spence Lloyd, Joseph Durant, Harold Owen, and Chester Gates of the Placid Utilities Water Advisory Committee from September 2, 2000 through September 2, 2001. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 120.

2. Small County Road Assistance Program

Ramon Gavarrere, County Engineer, reviewed the project proposal for the Small County Road Assistance Program as follows:

**CR 731 RESURFACING/RECONSTRUCTION/WIDENING
(GRAHAM DAIRY ROAD TO GLADES COUNTY LINE)
FM NO. 40683615801
PROJECT NO. 99082**

**CR 621 (LAKE JUNE ROAD)
RESURFACING/RECONSTRUCTION/WIDENING (US 27 TO GOLFVIEW
DRIVE) FM NO. 407751115801
PROJECT NO. 99081**

**CR 634 (LAKEVIEW DRIVE) RESURFACING/RECONSTRUCTION/WIDENING
(PARK STREET TO EDGEWATER POINT DRIVE)
FM NO. 4068345801
PROJECT NO. 99080**

As part of the Small County Road Assistance Program (SCRAP) the County is to receive \$763,000.00 from FDOT to be used towards the projects. The bids for the projects were opened on June 28, 2000. The low bid on all three (3) projects was submitted by Better Roads, Inc. with APA-Florida. Overall the bids came in at approximately 63% over engineer's estimate. After extensive negotiations, the total base bids were reduced from \$1,973,948.09 to \$1,796,484.75, a reduction of \$177,463.34. The County's and the City's participation will be \$883,240.26 and \$224,739.03 respectively (including material testing and contingencies (3%)). The County's share will be appropriated from underruns in the current fiscal year's road resurfacing, reconstruct, and dirt road construction.

In order to reduce the costs CR 731 will not be widened (it will be resurfaced) and asphalt with twenty (20%) percent RAP (recycled asphalt) is now being allowed. CR 621 and CR 634 will be widened as planned for the safety of the general public.

The proposal for CR 634 (Lakeview Drive) will be presented to the City of Sebring City Council on Tuesday, August 15th, 2000.

The Board will be asked to approve a Contract for the original base bid amount and Deductive Change Order No. 1 for each of the three (3) projects. Budget Amendments will be prepared and presented to the Board for approval at the same time.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the three projects as referenced and instruct staff to move forward with the preparation of Contract Documents and Budget Amendments. The Chair called for input on the motion. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 121 for copy of proposal.

3. 2000 Candidates for FDOT 2005-06 Work Program

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer reviewed the FDOT 2005-06 Work Program. Sebring Parkway Phase II will link Ridgewood with Highlands Avenue and US 27. The County Administrator said working with FDOT on the project meant the county will only have to pay 12 ½ percent of the cost but Debbie Hunt, representing FDOT, stated that right of way acquisition could take three years and probably would not occur in 2005-06. Then there would be a vacant year to save up for construction. We could be looking at maybe 2010. Carl Cool said that the county might have to rethink the project if construction did not occur until then. Another possibility is the county advancing FDOT the money for right of way acquisition and construction. Then, being reimbursed in future years. She acknowledged that the county could advance the money for right of way acquisition and be reimbursed starting with the 2005-06 fiscal year. Her estimate for the right of way acquisition is 16.3 million. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the 2000 candidates for FDOT 2005-06 Work Program as submitted. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 122 for copy.

4. Demolition of ACL Depot for construction of Sebring Parkway Phase I

The County Engineer presented request for the removal and demolition of the ACL Depot and to waive the bidding process. He advised that the presence of lead by OHC Environmental Engineering tested positive. Therefore TCLP Clippings were taken to show the amount of lead present in the paint. The TCLP Clippings results showed that there is 36.7 ppm (parts per million). He is obtaining quotes for lead abatement, due to the fact that it is less expensive to abate the lead paint than to dispose of the debris in a hazardous landfill.

Commissioner Maxcy spoke in favor of using the \$30,000 to save the building. He would like to approach the City with this question. Chair Flowers reminded the Board of the \$30,000 commitment for the relocation project that was made three years ago. It was a three-way agreement with the city, county and the depot committee pledging \$30,000 to the project. The city has recently withdrew its support and is finished talking about the subject. Carl Cool stated that it was a health hazard and spoke regarding the cost of the preservation. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Marie Boley spoke in favor of the preservation.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the request to waive the bidding process and to issue a purchase order to Spring Lake Services in the amount of \$10,500.00, as they were the company with the lowest quote. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Marie Boley asked that a historic marker be placed on the site, signifying the city's first railroad depot once stood there. Commissioner Stokes amended the motion to include the concept of the historic marker. Commissioner Gose seconded the amendment. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Maxcy, who voted nay. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 123.

11:00 a.m - 11:15 a.m.

D. Assistant County Administrator:

1. Approval of Payment without purchase order to Sky Asset Management

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve payment of invoice in the amount of \$38,148.51, in order to receive Highlands County records with recommendation that the Board Attorney review for possibly legal action against the company. Commissioner Bullard asked if there was any determination by the Internal Auditor that these funds should not be paid. Bob Jamison, Director of Compliance

and Internal Audit, recommended that the invoices be reviewed independently. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 124 for copy of invoice.

E. Board Attorney-discussion on Tower Ordinance

The Board Attorney reviewed information regarding Wireless Communication Towers. The Board of County Commission held a workshop in 1998. The drafting of an ordinance was delegated to staff. A draft ordinance was prepared and transmitted to the County Attorney. Staff is recommending the second draft ordinance which has the County Commission delegating approval authority to the Board of Adjustment for the approval or denial of Special Exceptions for Towers as it is the standard method of approving land uses that might negatively impact surrounding properties.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve processing the proposed second draft of the ordinance through the Planning and Zoning Commission, with public hearings by the Planning and Zoning Commission on September 12th and the Board of County Commissioners on September 26, 2000 that makes it a special exception through the zoning process. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Ord file for copy.

F. County Administrator:

1. Discussion on Pearce Homestead Master Plan

Carl Cool, presented recommendations on the Master Plan that the Board commit to Phase I of the proposed Master Plan and leave Phase II and III for possible additional consideration in the future if the need arises, and authorize a group to approach SFWMD Governing Board about the possible donation to the Board of County Commissioners of the lands donated to the District. These land requests would have to be above the 100 year flood plain and meet all District regulations.

Commissioner Stokes recommended that staff request that FHREDI transfer the grant to the County and the County administer the grant. Mr. Stokes also presented questions regarding

hunting on the county's portion of leased property
the type of management program acceptable

Jeff McLemore, SFWMD, advised that hunting can be discontinued and the management lease can be flexible and extended for 99 years. Commissioner Gose volunteered to approach the Water Management District to ask for the donation of the 400 acres to the Board of County Commissioners and then to address the master plan. Commissioner Stokes questioned if we want county staff working on restoration. Commissioner Gose said that we have resources available but there will be maintenance cost. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of a county park on the Kissimmee River.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Phase I of the Master Plan. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Allon Fish, representing the Sebring Chamber of Commerce, and the CVB, Von Whitesides, representing the Audubon Society, and Mike Waldron spoke in support of the project. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

The Chair appointed Commissioner Gose to represent Highlands County and approach the Governing Board of the South Florida Water management District, seeking donation of the Pearce Homestead Lands previously

donated to the District. Commissioner Flowers stated that the 600 acres that were purchased by the Water Management District with the P-2000 funds, that is tax dollars has already been used to purchase the property. His opinion is that we don't need to be buying a piece of property with other tax dollars to reimburse tax dollars. He asked that Commissioner Gose work toward getting the other 600 acres donated as well. Commissioner Gose stated that his priority is total ownership of the land, and once we get that, he will come back with recommendations. Mr. Gose also asked that staff work toward placing the property on the National Historic Register. Betty Neale reminded the Board that time is very critical with the grant. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 125.

2. Request to seek bids on property

Carl Cool presented the request to seek bids on property described as a portion of Lots 1 and 2, Blk 33, Town of Avon Park in Section 22-33-28 as surplus property. The School Board was approached to see if they have an interest in the property, since it is in close proximity to the Middle School, but they were not interested. Commissioner Bullard asked if we might want to relocate the EMS unit closer to the Avon Park Fire Station. Carl Cool stated that we need to leave it at the present location and maybe add a portion for a second unit.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to declare the property surplus and approve receiving the bids. Commissioner Bullard suggested an alternate bid, one bid on the property as described and an alternate bid as if it was the entire property including the EMS building. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 126.

3. Presentation of recommended Capital Improvement Plan

Carl Cool presented the updated Capital Improvement Plan to the Board. He suggested that the Board discuss this next Tuesday. Commissioner Gose agreed he would like to hold discussion before the election. He also questioned the removal of the \$950,000 to purchase the 600-acre section at the Lockett Estate. Mr. Cool recommended that the county find a private partner and let them come up with the money to develop the property. The Commissioners agreed to meet individually with Mr. Cool and provide their feelings on the updated plan. The Chair opened the floor to the public. C.B. Shirey, City Manager of Avon Park, mentioned two requests for funding, *recreation and the Avon Park Airport*. Ben Hill Griffin IV read a letter into the record asking for support for several appropriations that will provide improvements to the Avon Park Airport. See SMB 37 Page 127. Mr. Cool reported that everything that the City of Avon Park has asked for has been placed in the Capital Improvement Plan. Allon Fish, executive vice president of the Sebring Chamber of Commerce, was concerned about removing the funding for the land at the Lockett Estate. The Chair advised that discussion will be held next Tuesday on this item. See Capital Improvement Plan file.

G. Director, Compliance and Internal Audit: Interim Audit Report, EMS billing and collections:

Bob Jamison, Director of Compliance and Internal Audit, introduced staff, Pam Cross, Internal Auditor and Mia Robertson, Contract Compliance Officer. Mr. Jamison presented an interim audit report on EMS billing and collections. Refer to EMS file for copy of audit and response. Mr. Jamison stated that it will be several months before the full audit is finished. It will continue to focus on billing and collections and will not get into services provided by the department.

H. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits as listed:

Law Library	2,491.65
General	388,220.79
County Transportation Trust	80,935.49
E911 Operations	15,418.06
Intergovt Radio Communications	350.00
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	96,901.96
Community Development Block	2,250.00
Affordable Housing Assistance	75,203.85
Solid Waste	115,760.01
Placid Utilities	5,242.01
Highway Park Utility	240.85
Risk Retention Fund	18,478.87
Employee Benefit	54,130.29

2. Approval of minutes of 7-25-00 and 8-01-00 meetings
3. Accept into record - July Monthly Report
4. ~~Approval to process second draft of Towers Ordinance~~
5. Approval to execute EMS Medicaid re-enrollment forms. See EMS file.
6. Approval to execute agreement with SFCC for EMT students. See EMS file for agreement.
7. Approve to waive Board Policy that requires two names be submitted for each board or committee vacancy and appoint Ruth H. Bone to the Children's Services Council. See SMB 37 Page 128 for copy of resume.
8. Approval to waive SHIP insurance requirement for Louise B. Chancy Emergency Home Repair assistance. See SMB 37 Page 129.
9. ~~Approval to donate old radio tower to Sarasota YMCA. See SMB 37 Page 130.~~
10. Reaffirm Appointments of Rev. Jack White, Larry Jernigan, D.V.M. and John Young, D.V. M. to Dangerous Dog Committee. See SMB 37 Page 131.
11. Approval to expend funds from Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund in the amount of \$10,000 for the purchase of special equipment and supplies needed to continue the interdiction and enforcement of narcotics violations within the county. See SMB 37 Page 132.
12. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-330 (Shell Pit emergency repairs to vehicle) 99-00-331(mowing of right of ways) 99-00-333 (Planning) 99-00- 338 (Max Long Recreation Complex) 99-00-340 (Courthouse facilities) 99-00-341 (OPS to handle building inspections) 99-00-342 (Animal Control) 99-00-343 (Refuse Disposal System) 99-00-344 (Refuse Disposal System update scales, entrance gate and fence sign).

13. Approval to waive tipping fees for Caladium Festival. See SMB 37 Page 133.

14. Approval of Gulfstream Team Permitting Agreement. See Gulfstream file for copy.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

No participants.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard: Resolution in support of state funding for widening State Road 70

Commissioner Bullard read a Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution in support of special funding for the widening of State Road 70. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 44.

Commissioner Maxcy asked that Highlands County follow the lead and place signs with the picture of a penny and the logo, "Your pennies at work for you" when projects are completed. Staff to follow through with the suggestion.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:29 P.M.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD, AUGUST 24, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| David Flowers | Mike Eastman |
| C. Guy Maxcy | Carl Cool |
| Edgar E Stokes | J Ross Macbeth |
| Bob Bullard | Lisa McClelland |
| James L Gose | |

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting opened with a prayer by Chairperson Flowers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Flowers shared that this emergency meeting was called to consider adopting a Resolution, proclaiming a local emergency due to the Hurricane Debby event.

4. Hurricane Update

Ben Henley reported that the Hurricane has been downgraded to a tropical storm and it does not pose a threat to Highlands County at this time. Ross Macbeth stated that based on the information received, there is no demonstrated emergency condition. He spoke in opposition to declaring a local emergency in Highlands County. Carl Cool shared that the meeting was called in case of an emergency and would allow FEMA funding. However, if an emergency does arise, there is still time to act accordingly.

5. Public Input

No input was received.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, SEPTEMBER 5, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chairperson announced that the Board will be going into an Executive Session at 9:10 a.m. and the meeting will be closed to the public.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending September 5, 2000.

- B. **Clerk:**

No report was given.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

County Administrator Carl Cool, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action Agenda as listed with inclusion of the Executive Session.

- Add item under the County Administrator for the Sheriff to purchase controls for a new chiller system as Item G- 3.
- Add item under the County Administrator as Item G. 4 for change order for the new phone system.
- Remove Consent agenda item number 21 and add as G-5 for discussion.
- Remove Consent agenda item number 3 for discussion (Sebring Library renovation) and place as G-5.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

- A. **EXECUTIVE SESSION - Discussion on pending litigation: Case No. GC-00-32**

HIGHLANDS COUNTY v. BHOJ CHATTERPAUL and HAIMWANTIE CHATTERPAUL

The executive session was called to order at 9:12 a.m. with the following persons attending. Commissioners Bob Bullard, David W. Flowers, James L. Gose, C. Guy Maxcy, Edgar Stokes, County Administrator Carl Cool, County Attorney J. Ross Macbeth and a certified court reporter. For proof of advertisement, See SMB 37 Page 150.

Chairperson Flowers called the regular meeting back to order at 9:50 a.m. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to add to the agenda, Highlands County v. CHATTERPAUL as item two under the Board Attorney. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Proclamation: Rehabilitation Awareness Celebration

Proclamation read into the record by Chairperson, David Flowers. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Proclamation proclaiming the week of September 27th through September 24, 2000 as the “Rehabilitation Awareness Celebration” in recognition of Handicapped Americans Love of Life Organization (H.A.L.L.O). Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 50.

C. Operations Manager: Recreation Committee recommendation for Durrah-Martin Complex

Vicki Pontius, Operations Manager, presented recommendations from the Recreation and Park Advisory Committee meeting made by CB Shirey and the Avon Park Dixie Youth Baseball League for one third of the costs, up to \$25,000 for improvements to the Durrah-Martin Complex. She shared that the project will be completed with monies already provided by the City of Avon Park via the FRDAP grant. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve the request for one third funding of the costs of improvements, not to exceed \$25,000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 151.

With the time now being 9:55 a.m. and Chairperson Flowers being the designated member to serve on the Canvassing Board, the gavel was passed to Vice-Chair Guy Maxcy. Vice-Chair Maxcy resumed the regular meeting.

D. Development Services Director: New Transportation Element; Appointment of Temporary Task Force & Working Task Outline

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, presented a request to form a temporary Transportation Advisory Task Force (TATF) to provide assistance in identifying potential future rights of way for inclusion into the countywide vehicular circulation network which will be tested by the model. It is suggested that the TATF be comprised of 13 representative participants. County Administrator, Carl Cool recommended that the committee be reduced from two members to one as follows:

Planning & Zoning (1)

NRAC (1)

EDC (1)

City Councils (1 from each City)

FDOT (1)

School Board (1)

Board of County Commission member (1)

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to instruct staff to proceed to meet the requirements for appointments to a temporary Transportation Advisory Task Force (TATF) to assist in the preparation of a new Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan by developing a Future Rights-of-Way program for an integrated transportation systems as recommended by County Administrator, Cool. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Transportation Element file for copy.

E. Economic Development Director: Qualified Target Industry resolutions

Jim Stanfill, CED, Industrial Development Authority, presented a request for adoption of Qualified Target Industry resolutions to facilitate applications for four companies that have expressed interest in locating to this area. Captions of Resolution for project #01-00049 were read into the record by Mr. Stanfill. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution creating up to 1,200 new jobs in Highlands County, exercising the Local Financial Support Exemption Option. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 51.

Captions of Resolution for project #01-00065 were read into the record by Mr. Stanfill. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Resolution creating 60 to 80 new jobs in Highlands County, exercising the Local Financial Support Exemption Option. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 52.

Captions of Resolution for project #01-00066 were read into the record by Mr. Stanfill. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution creating up to 600 new jobs in Highlands County, exercising the Local Financial Support Exemption Option. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 53.

Captions of Resolution for project #01-00069 were read into the record by Mr. Stanfill. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution creating up to 400 new jobs in Highlands County, exercising the Local Financial Support Exemption Option. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 54.

F. Board Attorney: Highlands County vs. CSX Transportation, Inc.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the original Stipulated Final Judgment and Joint Motion in the sum of \$46,465.00 along with McKeon & Menard's bill for \$1800.00, and Jackson H. Bowman attorneys' fee for \$700.00 in Case Highlands Co. v. CSX Transportation, Inc. Case No. C-C99-585 for entry with the Court. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 152.

1. HIGHLANDS COUNTY v. BHOJ CHATTERPAUL and HAIMWANTIE CHATTERPAUL

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to authorize the Board Attorney to make an offer of judgement on behalf of the Commission, pursuant to Florida Statutes to resolve all matters, exclusive of attorney fees and costs. Florida Statutes provides that all conditions have to be included in the offer of judgement. The conditions to be included are that the defendants will stipulate to the entry of the final judgement vesting title and plaintiff of the easements that are described in Exhibit "B" of the petition of eminent domain. Those easements are both an easement for drainage where the constructed ditches are located and immediately adjacent to it, and an additional easement for access and use of maintenance of the ditch. Another condition, the defendants have filed or proposed to file a counter claim for trespass, which would date everything back to the construction of the original ditch. Mr. Macbeth recommends that the Board include within that offer of judgement as a condition that the defendants will dismiss the counter claim and the action with prejudice and execute a general release in favor of the plaintiff, other than attorney fees and costs, which will still need to be resolved. The last condition, that the Court award title to the plaintiff of easements described in Exhibit "B" to the petition in eminent domain, so the Board will have title to the two easements. The amount to be offered for that settlement is \$7,500.00 to be paid to the Chatterpauls, exclusive of attorney fees and costs, and the Board will install and maintain a 48-inch diameter, 30 feet long

metal culvert with appropriate cover to allow vehicular traffic across the ditch. In addition, the Board convey to the defendant by quick claim deed the portion of land shown as a creek on the Stump Subdivision, as recorded Plat Book 4 Page 12 lying between tract D and F and lying between E and F as shown in tract D, which is within the boundaries of the property owned by the Chatterpauls. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

G. County Administrator

1. Appointment to Industrial Development Authority

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to appoint Renee Bennett to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Tim Thompson, to the Industrial Development Authority. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 153 for copy of resume.

2. Request approval of budget amendment 99-00-336

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve budget amendment 99-00-336, to cover insufficient account and the remainder of the fiscal year expert witness' fees for indigent criminal defendants. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Sheriff request to purchase new controls for Chiller system at the County Jail

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve payment of the project without a purchase order from the County Jail Maintenance account in the amount of \$10,820.00. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 154.

4. Change order request for County-Com phone implementation

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve change order request as necessary for cabling requirements, and a change in equipment to bring the Sebring Library on-line with the implementation of the new County-Com phone system. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 155.

5. Consent agenda item number 21-discussion

Commissioner Bullard asked for clarification on Budget amendment #99-00-354. It was a consensus of the Board to remove this item to be heard at a later date. Commissioner Bullard also asked for an explanation of Budget amendment 99-00-370. The County Administrator reviewed the contents and the Board gave a consensus to place it back on the Consent agenda.

6. Sebring Library Expansion and Renovation change order no. 10

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve change order no. 10 with E.O. Koch Construction for the installation of a new return duct for the addition of air conditioning to utilize a storage/workroom closet for a small meeting room. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Maxcy, who abstained and entered into the record a memorandum of voting conflict, as E.O. Koch is a client of his corporation. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 156.

H. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Consent agenda with a correction to the listing of the Code Enforcement numbers.

Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits

Law Library 147.84

General	2,072,036.77
County Transportation Trust	47,482.04
E911 Operations	3,025.90
Conservation Trust	15,089.00
Intergovt Radio Communications	851.23
Local Govt Infra Surtax	341,883.46
Affordable Housing Assistance	55,994.49
Special Law Enforcement	1,088.12
Solid Waste	75,011.29
Placid Utilities	13,837.65
Highway Park Utility	2,527.27
Risk Retention Fund	6,268.99
Employee Benefit	31,353.97
Tax Deed Surplus	2,060.62
Highlands Hospital Pass thru	43,530.03

1. Approval of minutes of August 15, 2000
2. ~~Approval of change order no. 10, Sebring Library renovation.~~
4. Approval of Solid Waste Assessment roll certification. See Res. Book 14 Page 55.
5. Approval of SHIP Satisfaction of Mortgage- Villafane. See SMB 37 Page 157.
6. Approval of SHIP waiver of Housing Assistance Plan rule for Mr. Harold Atkinson. See SMB 37 Page 158.
7. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #SHC0005-0017. See SMB 37 Page 159.
8. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #SHC0004-0014. See SMB 37 Page 160.
9. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #0008-0015. See SMB 37 Page 161.
10. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #SHC0004-0007. See SMB 37 Page 162.
11. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #CE0001-0045. See SMB 37 Page 163
12. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #0005-0048. See SMB 37 Page 164.
13. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #SHC0004-0008. See SMB 37 Page 165.
14. Approval of Notice of Nuisance case #SHC0004-0009. See SMB 37 Page 166.
15. Approval of FDEP Recycling & Education Grant #RE01-26. See grant file for copy.
16. Approval of FDEP Waste Tire Grant #WT01-28. See grant file for copy.
17. Approval of FDEP Litter Control Grant #LC01-26. See grant file for copy.
18. Approval of FDEP Small County Grant #SC01-16. See grant file for copy.
19. Approval of change in employee assistance program provider to approve replacing our current EAP provider with Florida Hospital Assess EAP, effective October 1, 2000, additionally, waive the County's RFP requirements due to Florida Hospital Assess EAP is sole source local provider. See Insurance file for copy.
20. Approval of PRM renewal FY 2000-2001. See PRM file for copy.
21. Approval to sell tax certificates #00-11059 and #00-15686. See SMB 37 Page

167.

- 22. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-352 (for purchase of lots, London Property and Lakeside Dr./Rutledge Rd.) 99-00-353 (Supervisor of Elections under budget) 99-00- 358 (Personnel work-study program) 99-00-361 (Fire Coordinator) 99-00-366 (Public Assistance Program) 99-00-367 (Road and Bridge replacement of fence) 99-00-368 (Road & Bridge mowing of right of ways) 99-00-371 (Law Library Association annual meeting).
- 23. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 99-00-350 (lime green school signs)–99-00-354 99-00-355 (Rotary funds for the Born to Read Program) 99-00-357 (down payment program) 99-00-370 (EMS Sky billing work-Holiday pay and operating supplies). See Res. Book 14 Page 56.
- 24. Approval of agreement #01CP-04-07-38-01-028, Emergency Management

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

6. COMMISSIONERS

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest:

Clerk

BUDGET HEARING OF THE BOARD, SEPTEMBER 5, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David W Flowers
C Guy Maxcy
James L Gose
Edgar Stokes
Bob Bullard

C. Michael Eastman
Carl Cool
J. Ross Macbeth
Louise Graham

Also, present was Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, Rick Helms, Budget Officer, Terry Gott, Budget Analyst, Angela Bollinger, Budget Technician and all Department Heads.

2. **Public Hearing statement read by Chairperson to identify the millage rate and the purpose of the Public Hearing.**

The Chairperson stated that the Board of County Commissioners are holding this public hearing for the purpose of hearing written and oral comments on the budget and to satisfy State Department of Revenue requirements. The fiscal year 2000-2001 budget yields a 3.1766% tax increase when compared to the rolled back rate of FY 1999-2000. The increased valuation to generate the same taxes as in FY 1999-2000 would have allowed a millage of 8.2382. The Board has elected to adopt a tentative millage of 8.5.

County Administrator, Carl Cool commended budget staff for their work in developing the budget. The budget has also been reviewed with all Constitutional Officers. The total proposed budget represents the proposed county budget for next year of \$81,838,266.00.

3. **Public Hearing open to public input discussion and comments.**

A. Richard Conover asked staff to present him with the total amount of monies that were requested and then denied. The County Administrator advised that staff will present him with that figure.

4. **Motions for adoption of FY 2000-001 Resolutions**

A. Millage Resolution Adoption

Motion by Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution, adopting the millage rate of 8.5 mills as presently contained in the proposed budget for the 2000-2001 fiscal year, exceeding the rolled back rate of 8.2383 mills by 3.1766%. Upon Roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 58.

B. Tentative Budget Resolution

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Tentative Resolution, with the changes as proposed, adopting the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2000-2001 in the sum of \$ 77,052,880 for all funds exclusive of service tax districts. Upon Roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 59.

C. Adoption of Special Taxing Districts

1. Assessment adoption by district

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt FY 2000-2001 service assessment and budget for all service assessment districts in the total sum of \$ 4,785,386 which included \$ 3,380,217 in fund balance brought forward from the previous fiscal year. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 60.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, SEPTEMBER 12, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending September 12, 2000.

- B. **Clerk:**

No report was given.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

The Chairperson reported that item number 5 listed as a *Public Hearing* will be heard as a Workshop and a public hearing will be set in the future. The County Engineer will be briefing the Board on the recommendations of the Placid Utilities Advisory Committee.

4. **Public Hearing regarding Sun'n Lake Estates and Acreage of Lake Placid Special Benefit District**

Proof of Publication entered into the record by Treasa Handley, Special Assessment Coordinator. See SMB 37 Page 168. Ms. Handley shared that the petition is to consider a levy of a non-ad valorem assessment for the district along with a change in the boundaries. The notice that was mailed out did not include ballots, since it was a public safety issue. Seventy five percent of the 68 calls received came from Spanish speaking people and were opposed to the assessment. The majority of the responders wanted to sell their property. There were 25 letters received. One was in favor and 24 were opposed to the assessment. The Chairperson read into the record the Public Hearing statement. Commissioner Flowers reiterated his concern that Sun'n Lake was charging much more than other districts for vacant property. Commissioner Bullard initially agreed but was later convinced that the \$20 assessment was equitable. Jim Penrod, President of the Fire District, explained that the new assessment will include Mobile Home Parks, and RV Parks, but the residential lots will be taxed at no more than was approved three years ago. Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, stated that the district is looking down the road to purchase a new fire apparatus and a new fire station. If the new boundaries are included, the assessment will increase approximately \$36,000. Commissioner Stokes stated that the \$20.00 per platted lot seems out of proportion with other districts. Commissioner Flowers shared that he did not want to lose sight of the fact that the primary responsibility of the Division of Forestry is to provide service for brush fires in that district and that we have been working for the last three years for a countywide fire department that will most likely encompass this district. He will support a \$5.00 assessment,

but the \$20.00 assessment is not justified.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ed Harvell, owner of Harvell Groves, stated concern for the \$150.00 assessment for commercial structures of no value. Richard Conover expressed concern with staff not using laser equipment. Speaking in favor of the assessment was Jack Ritchie, secretary for the District, Jim Penrod, president and Rita Walter a Sun'n Lake Estates District resident.

Discussion by the Commission

Commissioner Maxcy spoke regarding the \$150.00 commercial assessment for a pole barn that houses equipment. He felt that staff should work with the property owner and not create a burden to the business owner. He shared that empty lots pose a greater risk for fire than a home in that area. He doesn't feel that \$20.00 per lot is too much to pay. Board Attorney Ross Macbeth suggested the addition of wording that would limit the amount of assessment per parcel for commercial. Commissioner Bullard asked that we not place limitations, as we don't know what may be built in the future. He said the county's assessment coordinator may use common sense when determining commercial assessments or come up with a definition for a commercial building, so every little pump house is not included.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution setting a non-ad valorem assessment roll for Sun'n Lake Estates and Acreage of Lake Placid Special Benefit District setting the annual assessment at \$20.00 per unimproved platted lot, \$20.00 per residential unit, \$150.00 per commercial structure, and \$20.00 per space within a rental mobile home park or campground, and approve the contract for service with the Property Appraiser and the Tax Collector.

Comments were receive from Ralph Kirk and Don Tousignant regarding the assessment. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Flowers, who voted nay. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 62.

Break 10:20 - 10:30 a.m.

5. Workshop regarding a proposed rate increase for Placid Water, Placid Sewer, and Highway Park

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented recommendation of the Placid Utilities Advisory Committee to adopt ordinance establishing a rate increase for Placid Water, Placid Sewer, and Highway Park Water System. Ramon reviewed amendments and additions to the ordinance.

Commissioner Bullard asked that the Board look at new development to pick up a larger number of rate payers in order to spread the rate base over more people to eliminate the need of increases. Carl Cool presented comments regarding the Lake Francis development and the advantages it could bring to the utility system. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. The consensus was to instruct staff to set a Public Hearing for September 26, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. See Placid Utilities for copy of changes.

6. Lt. Joe Allen, Fish & Wildlife Commission: Dove field in Ft. Bassinger

Lt. Allen, representing the Fish & Wildlife Commission, presented a request to the Commission for the 2001 dove hunting season that will begin in October. He requested the county disc and mow the 25 acres, with the fish and wildlife commission planting millet to attract the game birds. The hunting will be limited to 40 people at a time with a bag limit of 12 birds per day. There would be no charge, and Florida Statutes will hold harmless anyone providing the land. The 25 acres is part of the 400 acres owned by the South Florida Water Management District. The county has a management agreement with the district for that portion of the 1,000-acre estate that has the buildings on it. The Commission presented discussion regarding the cost and how the

management agreement could affect the county's "no hunting" provision.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Hank Kowalski, Conservation Chairman, spoke in opposition to the proposal, and said that the organization would withdraw support should the county allow hunting of doves on the property. The consensus of the Board was not to place this as an action item until ownership of property is determined.

Break 11:25 - 11:40 a.m.

7. Mike Eastman & Mike Carter: GASB-34 presentation

The New State and Local Governmental Reporting Model •GASB Statement No. 34

Mike Eastman, Clerk's Accounting and Finance Director, introduced Mike Carter and Renee Green of the NCT Group, Auditors for Highlands County. Mike Eastman reported that the GASB Statement will be the biggest change in the history of governmental accounting. On June 15, 1999 the GASB Board voted unanimously to approve Statement #34, which represented the major culmination of a fifteen-year effort. A short slide presentation was given, as listed, with responses from Mike Eastman and Mike Carter.

Mike Eastman stated that we have already started work on this project. We started attending seminars on GASB-34 about two years ago. The effective date is determined by the county revenue (3 phases based on all revenues for first fiscal year ending after June 15, 1999). Highlands County would fall under Phase II (Revenues \$10 - 100 million) for periods beginning after June 15, 2002 for FYE 9/30/2003. We will have a test year one year earlier.

Mike Carter, Dorrell and Hancock, NCT Group, shared that there is a lot of work involved with the GASB 34. One objective is that there will be more Board involvement required. In the past, putting together the CAFR, has been mostly the function of the Clerks Accounting and Finance area. With this new standard it will require a lot more involvement from the County Administrator and his staff. One objective is there will be significant resources required to implement the procedure and continue it each year. The first major change is a requirement management discussion and analysis to proceed with financial statements. The basic financial statements will change completely. The combined county-wide statements are going to be on a different basis of accounting than in the past and will not look anything like the past. The footnotes and the disclosures will be different. The detailed funds in the back will look different. Instead of having all the funds listed out, there will just be a few listed and everything else will be lumped together. Everything about the financial statements will change. The basis of accounting will be full accrual as a regular business. Also, we will be required to record infrastructure, streets, roads, land under the roads and any drainage systems.

Commissioner Bullard stated that these requirements will be costly but he hasn't seen any benefit to the citizen. Mike Eastman shared that it does require more accountability. He feels there is a benefit but doesn't know if the benefit exceeds the cost of doing it, but there is no choice in the matter.

Mike Carter stated that the first major change is Management's Discussion and Analysis. It introduces the basis of financial statements. It focus mainly on the primary governments, if you have significant component units, which our only unit is the Industrial Development Authority. It gives comparative financial information, which shows the results of this year versus last year. It looks for explanations of the variances and then gives the analytical overview of the government's financial activities, and most importantly requires supplementary information. The information must be in there to be in accords with general accepted accounting principals, or we could receive adverse or a disclaimer opinion.

Mike Eastman shared that his office will need to work with the County Administrator, Road and Bridge, and Engineering to come up with the best historical cost figures possible. He stated that we will need new systems to generate information on an ongoing basis. He recommended a committee, not appointed by the Board of County Commissioners for sunshine purposes to consist of Myrna Spencer - Accounting Manager, Rick Helms - Budget Officer, Carl Cool or Tom Portz, Mike Carter, and Mike Eastman as Project Manager.

9. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action Agenda as listed. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

10. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve payment of employee benefits in the amount of \$96,703.52. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

11. Budget amendment 99-00-354 - Emergency Management Base Grant

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution approving budget amendment 99-00-354 to provide funding for paving and hauling sod at the new EOC and to purchase televisions and VCR's for the new center. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. 14 Page 61.

12. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, SEPTEMBER 19, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending September 19, 2000. The Farm Report was given for the month of August.

- B. **Clerk:**

No report was given.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. A copy of the permit for Phase II, Sebring Parkway was presented. Groundbreaking is set for Tuesday, September 26, 2000. Ross Macbeth advised that the Value Adjustment Board will be meeting Wednesday, at 9:00 a.m. at 411 S. Eucalyptus Street, Sebring, Florida. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action Agenda as listed:

- Remove Consent Agenda item number 4 and place under the County Administrator as item number 7.

- A. ~~**Commissioner Maxcy: Presentation to Keith Williams**~~

Item to be heard September 26, 2000.

- B. **Sherry Carver & Susan King, DOT: Update on long range transportation plan and film**

Susan King presented a draft of the Florida Transportation Plan for the year 2020. The update recommended new ways to use existing resources to achieve statewide goals for transportation safety, safety management, economic competitiveness and quality of life. A short slide presentation was given on long-range goals. See Department of Transportation file for copy of

information. Sherry asked that comments from the Board be forwarded to the FDOT.

C. Kathy Fenelon, American Heart Association: Presentation of Automated External Defibrillators

Kathy Fenelon, representing the American Heart Association, Debbie Weigand, a long time volunteer of the American Heart Association, and John Harding, president of Florida Hospital, presented a check in the amount of \$12,000 to Rick Weigand, Director of Emergency Medical Services, to be used for the purchase of Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) in Highlands County. Rick updated the Board on the use of the automated external Defibrillators. Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, spoke regarding the benefits of the equipment to the Fire Departments. See SMB 37 Page 172.

D. Development Services Director:

1. Consistency Rezoning report and direction for prospective amendments

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, asked that the Board give direction to staff regarding Consistency Rezone issues that affect problem areas. Strip Commercial in Leisure Lake subdivision along Miller road and Strip Commercial along the eastern boundary of Sun'n Lake of Lake Placid (CR29) and Holmes Avenue scrub (CR619). The consensus of the Board was to direct staff to take the amendments out of order and proceed with public hearings. See Zoning file for information.

2. Request to re-adopt CDBG Housing application including amendments to the CDBG Housing Assistance Plan

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution amending the Housing and Community Development Guidelines originally passed March 24, 1992 and revised June 22, 1999, approve letter from the Chairman and re-adopt the Housing application with changes as submitted. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See CDBG file for copy.

E. General Services Director: Update on County-Com telephone system implementation

Jed Secory, General Services Director, presented an update on County-Com telephone system implementation. See SMB 37 Page 172 A for copy.

F. County Engineer: Approval of resolutions to transfer funds from the FDOT FY 2001-2005 five-year transportation work plan

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, introduced Douglas Gables, new Engineer with Highlands County. The Commission welcomed him on board.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve resolutions to transfer \$500,000 for the Sebring Parkway Phase II Right of Way acquisition, and \$170,000 for the Street Light Project on US 27 from Northwood to Whisper Lake to Sun'n Lake. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 64. Don Reeves from Colony Point spoke in favor of the project and thanked staff for their cooperation.

G. County Administrator: Reconsideration of insurance requirements for solid waste

collectors

County Administrator Carl Cool reported that several of the affected parties have contacted staff and Commissioners concerning the Resolution adopted to establish minimum insurance requirements for collectors of solid waste. A revised resolution reducing the requirements from one million to one-half million has been created for discussion purposes.

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution changing the insurance requirements for collectors of solid waste. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Dave Eckberg spoke in favor of the Resolution reducing the limits. Ross Macbeth believed that there should be a distinction based on the size of the vehicles. He shared that the one-half million will include everyone. The large haulers already carrying one million will drop one half of the coverage. Carl Cool stated support for the resolution. Wayne Fiyalko, County Risk Manager, spoke in favor of a separation for the larger vehicles. Commissioner Bullard asked that we pass the Resolution and clear up the problem for the small haulers and then take a look at the group that we might want to impose a higher standard. Commissioner Maxcy included that suggestion in his motion. Commissioner Stokes approved the second. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 65.

H. Board Attorney

The Board gave a consensus to set an executive session on October 3, 2000 at 9:10 a.m. for case number *GC-99-586 Highlands County v William D. and Norma T. Wiggins*, eminent domain case in Circuit Court to discuss settlement issues and litigation expenses.

Break 10:20 - 10:30 a.m.**I. County Administrator:****1. Recreation Committee recommendation for model airplane site**

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to offer the Town of Lake Placid \$15,000 of Recreation infrastructure funds provided by the county to make improvements to the proposed model airplane site at the old landfill located in Lake Placid. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 174.

2. Presentation of revised Capital Improvement Plan

Carl Cool presented the revised Ten Year Capital improvement Plan (CIP). The County Administrator explained the plan for the CR 635 Extension at the request of Commissioner Maxcy. The Plan will provide the funding for a five-mile project. Comments were received from Commissioner Maxcy on the proposed location of the route. Commissioner Gose stated that he does not believe that the Park will relinquish the right of way without closing Hammock Road. Carl Cool shared that the State will swap right of way if the Board will close Hammock Road.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt the revised Capital Improvement Plan. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Richard Conover asked if any consideration has been given for Sparta Road realignment. He also was concerned for the amount of funds for construction of a Pole Barn. Carl Cool stated that Sparta Road realignment has not been identified at this point. The Pole Barn funding is for a concrete slab with walls for the repair and maintenance of the big machines at the Landfill. C.B. Shirey, City Manager, Avon

Park, requested funding be included in the CIP for a \$250,000 match for a hurricane shelter complex at Memorial Field in Avon Park. Carl Cool stated that it is not identified in the CIP but there are additional dollars for the Parks and Recreation Committee to consider this request. He will be glad to take the request to the Recreation and Parks Committee next Thursday. Commissioner Maxcy spoke in support of the project. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 175.

3. Recommendation on revised FY 2000-2001 budget

The County Administrator presented a revised budget recommendation that deletes nine of the previously recommended new positions. These positions represent an overall reduction of \$170,088 in the proposed 2000-2001 year budget that will be considered at the September 19, 2000 final budget hearing. He recommended that the savings be added to the proposed contingency amount for the next year. Rick Helms reported that the increase to the contingency will be spread out in the various funds, and will be split between the General Fund, Transportation Trust Fund, and the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, depending on where the positions are cut. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Bob Bendl presented comments regarding the half position for mowing grass and working at the Library. See SMB 37 Page 176.

4. Discussion on additional \$25,000 Homestead Exemption

The County Administrator presented information on the additional \$25,000 Homestead Exemption. The Constitutional Amendment Article VII, Section 6, authorizes the Legislature to allow counties and municipalities to grant an additional homestead tax exemption not exceeding \$25,000 to certain persons 65 years of age or older whose household income does not exceed \$20,000 adjusted gross income. Rick Helms presented a short slide presentation on the subject. Carl Cool spoke in opposition to the exemption. Commissioner Maxcy presented a statement in support of the exemption.

Commissioner Stokes stated concern that the exemption may cut services to the citizen or raise the millage. Staff discussed the cost involved in the implementation of the exemption. Commissioner Gose and Bullard spoke in favor of adding more services, rather than increasing the exemption. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Bob Bendl spoke in favor. Gabriel Reed asked that the Board get facts before they take any action. C.B. Shirey, resident of Highlands County, presented comments in opposition to the exemption.

Ray Napper spoke in favor of the exemption. Commissioner Flowers spoke in favor of a tiered exemption. He passed the gavel and made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to enact an additional \$5,000 homestead exemption for the persons qualified to receive it for a one year period in order to obtain a more accurate estimate for future analysis on how much it will impact the county. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the motion. Commissioner Gose spoke in opposition to the motion. The Vice-Chair opened the floor to the public. Loren Eby spoke in favor. Gabriel Reed asked that the motion contain verbiage that the exemption not impact advalorem taxes. The Vice-Chair stated that we will need to address that issue down the road. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Gose, who voted nay. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 177.

5. Recommendation on Interlocal Agreement with Highlands County School

Board

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve Interlocal Agreement with Highlands County School Board to provide for the acquisition of road right of way; planning and construction of improvements, related to the Sebring Parkway Phase II and planning and construction of new entrances and access roads for automotive and bus traffic for Fred Wild Elementary School and Sebring High School. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See School Board file for copy.

6. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-396 and 399; 408; 410 transferring monies from General Fund Reserve and Infrastructure Reserve

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve budget amendments 99-00-396 for the transfer of funds into the County Jail repair and maintenance account to cover costs for upgrade and replacement of existing controls in the air handling units; 99-00-399 for the Durrah-Martin Complex improvements; 99-00-408 for 911 dispatchers increases in overtime and benefits; 99-410 for medical care for the individuals incarcerated in the Jail. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

7. Consent agenda number 4 - Approval of Sebring Library Expansion and Renovation Change Order No. 11 E.O. Koch Construction

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve a change order to the Sebring Library expansion and renovation project contract with E.O. Koch Construction to install steps or a sidewalk leading to the emergency exit in the amount of \$2,300. Commissioner Bullard noted that he previously had concerns regarding handicapped accessibility, but his concerns were satisfied. Commissioner Maxcy noted a conflict on the vote because E.O. Koch is a client of his corporation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Maxcy, who abstained and entered into the record a memorandum of voting conflict. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 178.

F. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Consent agenda as listed.

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits

Law Library	1,423.00
General	673,083.82
County Transportation Trust	362,585.90
E911 Operations	12,480.16
Intergovt Radio Communications	350.00
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	95,848.28
Affordable Housing Assistance	77,878.21
Special Law Enforcement	2,428.89
Solid Waste	13,229.74
Placid Utilities	32,575.85
Highway Park Utility	396.45
Risk Retention Fund	771.52

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Employee Benefit | 101,525.96 |
| Highlands Hosp Pass Thru | 42,000.00 |
2. Approval of minutes of 08-22-00 and 09-05-00 meetings
 3. Accept into record - August Monthly Report
 4. ~~Approval of change order for E.O. Koch - Sebring Library Expansion.~~
 5. Approval to execute EMS County Grant application, Resolution, and advance payment request form. See EMS file for copy.
 6. Approval of amendment to Interlocal Agreement with City of Sebring on recreation facilities. See City of Sebring file.
 7. Approval of fee schedule for Development Agreements with adoption of Resolution. See Development Agreement fee schedule file.
 8. Approval of Satisfaction of Mortgage - Milliron. See SHIP file.
 9. Approval of lease agreement with DP Partners and PGP Partners, known as Daniel and Paul Phypers, Jr. for the expansion of the Lake Placid Road and Bridge facility. See Lease Agreement file.
 10. Approval of State Aid to Libraries application. See SMB 37 Page 179.
 11. Approval of Cooperative Aquatic Plant Control Program Grant. See SMB 37 Page 180.
 12. Approval of Commodity Grant Contract FY00-01. See SMB 37 Page 181.
 13. Approval of Satisfaction of Mortgage - Neiderman.
 14. Approval to sell tax certificates #00-13667. See SMB 37 Page 182.
 15. Approval of budget amendment 99-00-406 and acceptance of grant for matching funds for the annual Heritage Festival - Visit Florida Grant. See SMB 37 Page 183.
 16. Approval of grant-in-aid Agreement, letter of request for release of funds for FY 98/00 and approval of spending plan for the Small County Courthouse funding. See SMB 37 Page 184.
 17. Approval to encumber funds for Lake Testing Central Sewer Study. See Central Sewer study file for copy.
 18. Approval of request to release RB1708 (1994 Ford Dump Truck) to Gallagher Bassett to allow issuance of the insurance check to Highlands County. See Gallagher Bassett Insurance file for copy.
 19. Approval of WIC contract amendment (Highlands County Health Department).
 20. Approval of Highlands County Health Department core contract.
 21. Approval of budget amendment 99-00-390 (Clerk moving monies from their Reserve to Operating & Capital Outlay Accounts).
 22. Approval of resolution and budget amendments 99-00-380(CR 634 Resurface) 99-00-381 (CR 621 Lake June resurfacing) 99-00-382 (CR 731 Resurface) 99-00-383 (Veterans Service overtime) 99-00-388 (Planning Dept shortfall) 99-00-389 (EOC moving costs) 99-00-392 (unanticipated leave of warehouse manager) 99-00-394 (EMS increase in billing fee) 99-00-395 (Sebring Library and Countywide Library utilities cost and staff position move) 99-00-398 (cost accounting of canoes and trailer for Lockett Estate FRDAP grant) 99-00-400 (Ag-Civic Center Auditorium remodeling) 99-00-403 (Cooperative funding Lakes Evaluation) and 99-00-404 (Sheriff's overtime in special projects). See Res. Book 14 Page 66.
 23. Approval of Commodity contract amendment and resolution and budget

amendment 99-00-393. See Res. Book 14 Page 67.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

No participants.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Flowers reported that the Trucking Lobby for the State of Florida is trying to get the weights on their trucks increased by 15,000 pounds per truck. They are citing this as an economic enhancement for the State of Florida. Secretary of Transportation, Barry has the authority to make this change after public hearings are held. The vehicle hauling weight would change from 80,000 pounds to 95,000. This is a concern of the Community Traffic Safety Team. The first Public Hearing has been set for October 4, 2000 at 9:00 a.m. The Chairperson encouraged the Commission to contact Secretary Barry and let their concerns be known.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

BUDGET HEARING OF THE BOARD, SEPTEMBER 19, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David W Flowers
C Guy Maxcy
James L Gose
Edgar Stokes
Bob Bullard

C. Michael Eastman
Carl Cool
J. Ross Macbeth
Louise Graham

Also, present was Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, Rick Helms, Budget Officer, Terry Gott, Budget Analyst, Angela Bollinger, Budget Technician and all Department Heads.

2. **Public Hearing statement read by Chairperson to identify the millage rate and the purpose of the Public Hearing. See Proof of Publication SMB 37 Page 185.**

The Chairperson stated that the Board of County Commissioners is holding this public hearing for the purpose of hearing written and oral comments on the budget and to satisfy State Department of Revenue requirements. The fiscal year 2000-2001 budget yields a 3.1766% tax increase when compared to the rolled back rate of FY 1999-2000. The increased valuation to generate the same taxes as in FY 1999-2000 would have allowed a millage of 8.2383. The Board has elected to adopt a tentative millage of 8.5.

County Administrator Carl Cool presented a short presentation, stating that he has reduced the new positions recommended in the budget two weeks ago from 20 down to 11 positions. The budget doesn't change, because the savings will go into the Contingency Fund. Mr. Cool thanked staff for their work in developing the budget. Rick Helms, Budget Officer, presented a slide presentation. The total proposed budget represents the proposed county budget for next year of \$81,930,565.00.

3. **Public Hearing open to public input discussion and comments.**

A. Richard Conover spoke to the Commission regarding several issues: Position upgrades for the male gender in comparison to the female gender (Personnel Director, Keep Highlands County Beautiful Coordinator, Solid Waste Manager). Mr. Conover mentioned several females that have more years with the county than the new upgrades. Carl Cool responded that there are several position upgrades for females. The Chair asked that if anyone in their Department is being treated unfairly by the system that is in place now, please bring it to the Board's attention.

4. Motions for adoption of FY 2000-001 Resolutions

A. Millage Resolution Adoption

The Chairperson read the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution, adopting the millage rate of 8.5 mills as presently contained in the proposed budget for the 2000-2001 fiscal year, exceeding the rolled back rate of 8.2383 mills by 3.1766%. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon Roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 68.

B. Tentative Budget Resolution

The Chairperson read the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Tentative Resolution, with the changes as proposed, adopting the tentative budget for the fiscal year 2000-2001 in the sum of \$ 77,052,880 for all funds exclusive of service tax districts. Upon Roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 69.

C. Adoption of Special Taxing Districts

Rick Helms, Budget Officer, read the 2000-2001 assessments for the service districts into the record. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt FY 2000-2001 service assessment and budget for all service assessment districts in the total sum of \$4,877,685 which included \$ 3,380,217 in fund balance brought forward from the previous fiscal year. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 70.

D. Resolution Incorporating budget changes

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution incorporating the changes into the final budget. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 71.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, OCTOBER 3, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Bob Bullard, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Sheriff:

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending, October 3, 2000.

B. Clerk:

No report presented.

C. Upcoming meetings:

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action agenda as listed.

- Add Budget amendments 00-01-06 under the County Administrator as item number three.
- Add discussion under the Board Attorney regarding William D. Wiggins, Jr., and Norma T. Wiggins as item number G-1.
- Add discussion under the Board Attorney regarding Consent Agenda item number 5 as item G-2.
- Remove Consent agenda item number 9-10-11 for discussion and place under the County Administrator as item number four.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. EXECUTIVE SESSION - discussion on pending litigation: Case No. GC 99-586

William D. Wiggins, Jr., and Norma T. Wiggins with those present being Chairperson David Flowers, C. Guy Maxcy, Edgar E Stokes, Bob Bullard, James L Gose, Board attorney J Ross Macbeth, County Administrator Carl Cool, and a certified court reporter.

Proof of Publication of entered into the record. See SMB 37 Page 187.

B. Resolution on National Adult Immunization Awareness

The Resolution was read into the record by County Administrator, Carl Cool. Ken Swann, Highlands County Health Department, spoke in favor of the Resolution. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution recognizing National Adult Immunization Awareness week October 8th through 14th, 2000 in Highlands County. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 76.

C. Crystal Hillier: Request for sidewalk- Sun Lake South Homeowners Association

Crystal L. Hillier of Lake Placid appeared before the Board with concern for the safety of traveling children attending Lake Country Elementary School in Sun'n Lake of Lake Placid. She advised that a formal request will be forthcoming for sidewalks to be installed along Sun'n Lakes Boulevard with the cooperative effort of the Improvement District, the County Recreation Committee, and a large group of concerned citizens. See SMB 37 Page 188 for copy of request.

D. Jim LaRue, Small County Technical Assistance Services: Revenue options

Marissa Sanchez, lobbyist for the Florida Association of Counties, presented a brief schedule of meetings. Jim LaRue, representing the Florida Counties Foundation Small County Technical Assistance Services Program, presented the County with the third edition of the *Analysis of Revenue Options for Highlands County*. Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson, P.A. will be available to review the revenue options. See Florida County Foundation file for copy.

E. Dorn Whitmore, United States Fish & Wildlife Services: Presenting a three-point proposal concerning Flamingo Villas Subdivision

Dorn Whitmore, representing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, presented a slide analysis pertaining to the acquisition of the Flamingo Villas Subdivision. He asked that the County offer support on three proposals.

1. The FWS would like to acquire the 164 lots from the 65 owners that have title problems using the process known as friendly condemnation. They would like the County to recognize that this is the only means available to clear these titles. The FWS would like to make it clear that:
 - The FWS is buying from willing sellers;
 - It is an action that will benefit the land owners as well as FWS
 - The FWS does not want to erode public support for future land acquisition programs in Highlands County
2. The FWS would like the County to vacate the road easements as the surrounding property is acquired. Because of the checkerboard type of ownership pattern now, only a few easements would be affected at this time. As the FWS acquires all lots on a platted road, or block of roads, they would like to be able to have the easement vacated. This would reduce future fragmentation of habitat and assist in the recovery of the listed species. It would also make it possible to begin fencing the property to limit vandalism, dumping and other "trespass" uses incompatible with conservation management.
3. The FWS would like the County to implement a building moratorium (policy moratorium) as is currently applied to the Highlands County owned "Sun n' Lake Preserve" acquisition area. This

would be applied to the Flamingo Villas Subdivision and the remaining three lots outside the subdivision (10.9 acres) for three years or more. This would accomplish several things. First, there are no roads or homes within the unit at this time, and this action would maintain the status quo. This would also give the FWS time to focus specific offers to the remaining owners and provide information about the condition of the remaining lots.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy to approve NRAC recommendations as follows:

1. To support “friendly condemnation” for willing sellers in order to clear titles.
2. To recommend support to vacate road easements when the USFWS owns all the lots around the easement.
3. To recommend support for a building moratorium by policy, with no time limit, for the remaining lots in order to “customize” information about specific lots.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Hank Kowalski spoke in favor of the motion. Ross Macbeth suggested a motion to impose a moratorium, as Item number three *is recommending support for a building moratorium*. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Maxcy, to impose a moratorium by policy, dictating that the owner will come before the Board of County Commissioners for a permit. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 190 for copy of information.

F. County Engineer:

1. Request to approve final plans and cost estimate, also establish start date for Sebring Parkway Phase I

County Engineer Ramon Gavarrete presented a slide presentation on the final estimate, and the final plans as approved by SWFWMD. The estimated construction will begin on or after October 4, 2000, depending on the meeting with the Sebring City Council. The total estimated cost of the Sebring Parkway Phase I from Avalon Road to Ridgewood Drive is \$3,366,000.00. This includes an approximate 10% contingency. County forces will be building most of the roadway. Parts of the construction will be contracted, that includes most of the concrete work. Two signals are proposed, one at Ridgewood and one at Shontee or Harmony Drive. If the entire project was contracted, staff would be looking at about six million dollars. A six-foot chain link fence will be constructed on both sides from Home Avenue to Ridgewood, for safety of the children. Carl Cool recommended that if the Sebring City Council approves the plan, that the Board have a groundbreaking ceremony on October 10, 2000 at 1:00 p.m. The typical section is a four-lane divided highway with swales. The typical median width is approximately 20 foot-wide from west of Home Avenue to Ridgewood with an urban section. The abandoned railroad right of way will be used for retention. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve final plans, updated cost estimate, and commencement date of October 10, 2000 for construction of Sebring Parkway Phase 1. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Sebring Parkway for information.

2. Request to approve the Water Advisory Committee recommendations regarding the proposed South Florida Water Management District Water

supply contingency plan

Clell Ford, Lakes Manager, presented the Water Advisory Committee recommendations regarding the proposed SFWMD Water Supply Contingency Plan. Commissioner Stokes spoke regarding the problem with access to the structure. Bill Dwinell shared that this problem has been resolved. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt the recommendations as follows:

- A. Express concern to the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District that no representative of Highlands County was invited to be a participant in the initial development of the Draft SFWMD Water Supply Contingency Plan.
- B. Recommend to the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District that the District install pumps at structures S-83 and S-84 on the C-41A canal in order to pump water from Reach E of the Kissimmee River into the C-41A canal, following the guidance provided in option 3 of the District's Draft Water Supply Contingency Plan.
- C. Recommend to the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District that District water use permits be revised to state that permitted water use be based on demonstrated need, not permitted quantity, during times of forecast or declared water shortage.
- D. Urge the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District to perform immediate repairs to the G-85 structure on the Istokpoga Canal to prevent its catastrophic failure.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Bill Dwinell, John Payne, and Wendell Whitehouse, representing the Water Advisory Council, spoke in support of the motion. Commissioner Bullard asked that the motion include the word *strongly urge the Governing Board to perform immediate repairs to the G-85 structure*. The maker of the motion accepted the recommendation. Commissioner Stokes stated that his second would stand. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Clell Ford shared that the Water Advisory Committee has concern about the lack of a County dedicated representative to attend water management district meetings, provide input to the Water Management Districts, and feedback to County advisory committees and the Board of County Commissioners. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to commit to appointing an official Highlands County representative dedicated to attend all Water Management District water resource related meetings. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Lakes Manager file for copy. See SMB 37 Page 195.

Break -10:54 - 11:05 a.m.

G. Board Attorney

1. Highlands County v William D. and Norma T. Wiggins eminent domain case GC-99-586-Settlement Proposal

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Settlement Proposal of \$35,000 for 5.09 acres of land needed for the Sebring Parkway Phase III, exclusive of the appraisal fees, and attorney fees that will be incurred. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

2. Consent agenda number 5-Approval of mortgage modification - Riley

Ross Macbeth presented a correction to the amount of the mortgage modification for JoAnn Riley. The borrower's indebtedness to lender is increased to \$14,428.37. Mr. Macbeth has approved as to form with the correction and the witnesses. The item is to be placed back on the Consent agenda for approval.

H. County Administrator:

1. Request to approve matching funds for FRDAP Grant - Charlie Brown Park

County Administrator Carl Cool presented a concept for the Board to provide matching funds to apply for a FRDAP grant to develop a playground at Charlie Brown Park. Jeff Carlson, representing the Playground Committee, reported that in March 1999, the Playground committee asked the City to consider using Charlie Brown Park as a site for a playground. The City of Sebring approved this request. At their September 5, 2000 meeting Council discussed a FRDAP grant for Charlie Brown Park with the City and County equally sharing the 25% match. The grant amount would be \$150,000 and the local match would be shared. The deadline for applying for the grant is October 13, 2000. Mike Carter, Committee person, reviewed the budget, detailing the expenditure cost. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve request to present to the Recreation Committee and to share the 25% match with the City of Sebring for the Playground request. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 191.

2. Request to approve holiday schedule for 2001

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt the holidays' schedule for 2001 from Chief Judge Curry for the Tenth Judicial Court, as the same schedule for the Board of County Commissioners. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 192 for copy.

3. Budget Amendment 00-01-06

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendment 00-01-06 to bring fund balance forward from FY99-00 to FY00-01 in order to complete the Telecommunication Upgrade. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

4. Consent Agenda #9-10-11. CR-634- 731 and 621

Commissioner Bullard presented concerns regarding the credit that was received for use of recycled asphalt that lowered the overall bid price. He stated that there was no correlation between the credits and the length of the road or the amount of the contract. Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, shared that the total savings are not directly related to allowing 20% recycled asphalt, for example on the CR731 project, the scope of work was reduced from a widening project to a resurfacing project. Most of the savings are in that project. Changing the scope eliminated other items like base, and other materials. Commissioner Bullard asked that this item be placed back on the Consent agenda for approval.

5. Concession Stand in Avon Park

Carl Cool presented a request from the City of Avon Park to allow construction to begin on the Concession Stand in Avon Park, with the provision that reimbursement will be forthcoming, once the Interlocal is approved and signed by both parties. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve request from the City of Avon Park to allow an expenditure made under the Interlocal Agreement

as of October 3, 2000, that is in effect, with the provision that no reimbursement will be allowed until an agreement is signed by both parties. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

I. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as listed:

- 1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills as listed:**

Law Library	350.56
General	1,860,871.83
County Transportation Trust	119,422.72
E911 Operations	3,098.84
Intergovt Radio Communications	501.23
Law Enforcement Education	16,385.42
Local Govt Infra Surtax	232,367.03
Community Development Block	63,672.03
Affordable Housing Assistance	25,999.84
Special Law Enforcement	4,108.07
Solid Waste	68,183.95
Placid Utilities	26,743.62
Highway Park Utility	2,909.91
Risk Retention Fund	438,795.31
Employee Benefit	3,284.25
Highlands Hospital pass thru	11,253.25
- 2. Approval of minutes of regular meetings of September 12, 2000 and September 19, 2000 and Budget Hearing minutes of September 19, 2000.**
- 3. Approval of road improvement list. See SMB 37 Page 193.**
- 4. Approval of group health insurance rates & wellness incentives. See Employee Benefit file for copy.**
- 5. Approval of mortgage modification - Riley. See SHIP file for copy.**
- 6. Approval of budget amendments 99-00-412(overtime for hurricane shelter duty and Code Enforcement colored printers) 99-00-413 (Animal Control costs) and 99-00-415 (Interpreting Services).**
- 7. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 00-01-1(Weed Control grant) and 00-01-5 (CR 634 Pk St to Edge Pl; CR 621 27 to Gulfview; CR 731 Graham Rd to HC Line). See Res. Book 14 Page 77.**
- 8. Approval for CSA No. 26 for Chastain-Skillman, Inc. to provide aerial photography, surveying and mapping services at the Highlands County solid waste management center. See SMB 37 Page 194.**
- 9. Request to approve contract documents & change order #1-CR634 Lakeview Drive from Park Street to Edgewater Point Drive. See file for copy.**
- 10. Request to approve contract documents & change order #1-CR731 Graham Dairy Road to Glades County Line. See file for copy.**

- 11. Request to approve contract documents & change order #1-CR621 Lake June Road. See file for copy.
- 12. Request to approve CPR training agreement with Florida Hospital Health Education Department. See Employee Insurance file for copy.
- 13. Request to approve Home Health Care amendment # 6 to Highlands County Employee Health Benefit plan. See Employee Benefit file for copy.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

John Williams, speaking for himself, read a statement into the record regarding the RPAC/NRAC subcommittee. He shared that no meeting has been held since July. The Chair directed the County Administrator to follow through and take care of this matter.

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Gose asked Board direction on the acquisition of property of the Edna Pearce Lockett Estate from the Water Management District. The Boards recommendation was not to take the property piece-meal. The Board's original direction was to seek the donation of that one portion from the Water Management District.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, OCTOBER 10, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Bob Jamison
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Clerk of Courts, L.E. "Luke" Brooker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending, October 10, 2000.

- B. Clerk:**

L. E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts, presented a report on the following items:

- Jury Trial Week in Highlands County - all cases were resolved.
- Value Adjustment Board Hearings -The Special Master was appointed by the Board. Twenty-five petitions were scheduled to be heard. Some of the cases were resolved. Only twelve (12) were actually heard by the Special Master. The Special Master will present his findings of facts by next week. There is no appeal to the Value Adjustment Board. The next step for the petitioner is the Circuit Court.
- The Clerk presented a request for the Board to consider the naming of Courtroom A to Clifton Kelly Courtroom. The consensus of the Board was to bring back a resolution on October 17, 2000 for consideration.

- C. Upcoming meetings:**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. Mr. Cool advised that Friday afternoon the new phone system will be implemented. The prefix will be changing to 402. The Chairperson reported that the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Sebring Parkway will be held at 1:00 p.m. today.

4. **Public Hearing: 2nd Public Hearing on Proposed changes to Chapter 12 Zoning Code regarding Tower Ordinance**

Proof of Publication entered into the record. See Proof of Pub Ord. Book 2 Page 113. Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, advised that this was heard by Planning and Zoning Commission and the Local Planning Agency on September 12, 2000 and the first public hearing was held by the Board of County Commissioners on September 26, 2000. The Planning and Zoning Commission and the Local Planning Agency made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioner approval, including the changes that were discussed. Mr. Polatty read the captions of the ordinance into the record. Information was entered into the record from the American Tower Corporation, regarding Tower separations and setbacks by Counties in Florida. See SMB 37 Page 196.

Commissioner Bullard stated concern for the horizontal separation of 700% of the tower height when the tower is adjacent to Residential Zoning Districts. He would like to provide a minimum separation of 200 feet or 300% of tower height whichever is greater for residential zoned properties and then under certain circumstances the Board of Adjustments may require a greater separation up to 300 or 400 % of tower height. He likes the way Seminole County approaches the separation from residential zoned lands. Commissioner Maxcy sounded a word of caution that we could have towers all over the county that we don't need. He agreed that we need towers for technology in Highlands County but unlike other counties, U.S. 27 goes right through the middle, and we need to protect the aesthetics of the county.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Attorney Michael Howe, speaking for the American Tower Company, stated that his company can live with the recommendation of Commissioner Bullard. He would prefer setbacks from zoning, because zoning can change, and even if it doesn't change, the tower would be allowed under a grandfather provision. Howe also suggested that it would be best not to require property owners to sign a joint-liability form with a tower company. Randy Currin, Zoning Representative, stated that his company cannot pick where it wants to place towers. His company sells these facilities to cell phone companies like Sprint or Nextel. They design around existing structures to get on air as soon as possible. Jim Malless, Planner for Crown Castle, presented recommendations on the ordinance. He felt that some of the regulations are too restrictive. See SMB 37 Page 197 for copy. Hank Kowalski, Conservation Chairman for the Audubon Society, commended the Commission for their concern and spoke of the hazard to birds, and the impact to property values.

The Board Attorney modified language in item G. Page 10. Separation Distances from Adjacent Zoning striking the words ~~The Special Exception may require,~~ and start the sentence with the word *Ground-Mounted Towers (Monopole, Lattice and Guyed Tower) shall have a horizontal separation of 200 feet or 300% of the tower height, whichever is greater, when the tower is adjacent or in proximity to Residential Zoning Districts, property having an existing residential use or Conservation/Management Zoning District, or other areas designated Conservation/Management on the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map. Alternative Towers require no separation other than the setbacks required by this section.*

Commissioner Bullard discussed the difference in a surety bond requirement or a joint severability provision. Ross Macbeth stated that he would like to have some viable bond alternative. He can bring one back to the Board. Mr. Bullard wondered if this could cause unreasonable effects on agriculture. Lisa Dunsun, Citrus Growers Association, stated that the growers would have to take a look at the provision to see what impact it might have on them. Commissioner Bullard questioned if the County has sufficient staff to implement this ordinance. He recommended that in the future a Resolution may be included setting fees toward enforcement.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt the ordinance, with the amendments made in Section G and with the understanding that staff will work with the Citrus and Agriculture Community to bring back other amendments to improve the ordinance along with a provision for the bond and the fees to accompany the Tower Ordinance. Commissioner Maxcy asked that a report come back with the amendments on the taxation issue. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. Sheldon Pafford, Temple, Inc.: Presentation of the 3M Opticom Priority Control System

Sheldon Pafford, representing Temple, Inc. discussed with the Commission the installation of the 3 M Opticom Priority Control System on emergency vehicles. The system uses an infrared emitter with an encoded transmission to activate a sensor that then takes over the lights at the next intersection. The emitter

has a half-mile range. The system has time to change all other lights to yellow before going red, giving all other traffic a chance to stop. The system cost \$1,000 for the vehicle-mounted portion.

Mr. Pafford shared that the major benefits would come from reduced response time, increased safety for motorist and emergency personnel and less liability risk to the county. He demonstrated the system to the Community Traffic Safety Team by outfitting a county truck with the system and having it driven north toward the intersection of Kenilworth Boulevard and Highlands Avenue.

Commissioner Flowers shared that he was impressed with the operation of the system, at the intersection and that the truck set off the system while still south of Fred Wild Elementary School. Carl Cool reported that traffic traveling with an emergency vehicle would move out of the way, knowing they had the green light.

Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, shared that when a brush truck or tanker comes to an intersection, it can't easily slow down, change lanes or go off the road. The system would also save wear and equipment by saving trucks from slowing at intersections. With liability a major factor, Pafford said the system will cut insurance costs. There are 40,000 systems already installed nationwide, with 1,500 to 2,000 in Florida.

Mr. Pafford stated that the most popular way of funding the system is through the T-21 bill, which is the Federal Highway Transportation Bill. Several counties are now working on grants for the T-21 funding and smaller type safety grants. He will help staff to guide them through the process and if that money is not available, then we will try the next step to go through Washington to help secure the funds. He will also survey the intersection to see which ones will be affected. The approximate cost of an intersection is \$4,100.00. Carl Cool estimated that the cost for Highlands County is approximately one-quarter of a million dollars.

The Chair passed the gavel to the Vice-Chair and instructed staff to pursue the financing arrangements by way of a grant or recommendations to facilitate a program of this type as soon as possible. Commissioner Stokes seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

Break 10:47 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

6. Workshop on Heritage Tree Protection Ordinance

Commissioner Stokes stated that Natural Resources Advisory Council has presented a proposed Heritage Tree Protection Ordinance for the Board's review and action. Barbara Stewart, a member of NRAC, who chaired the committee and Mike Eisenhart, Director of "Keep Highlands Beautiful" made the presentation to the Commission. Mike highlighted the need for standards and technical aspects. Barbara then briefly outlined the proposal. Mike said that the trees the county is being asked to protect are valuable. They will return twice the dollar value of the investment in a controlled area. Replacement trees would have trunks six inches in diameter and take five or six years to reach 24 inches around.

Commissioner Maxcy wondered if the committee members looked at the Home Depot site. Stewart said there were no trees on the site that would qualify as heritage trees. He also questioned why pine trees were not put on the list. Stewart stated that the reason was safety concerns.

Enforcement of the ordinance would come from the county's planning department, as Duane Neiderman, Planning Supervisor is an experienced landscape architect. Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, said that a survey will be turned in that shows tree location. Mike Eisenhart has agreed to look at the individual sites. He does not see the need for additional staff. Ramon Gavarrete said the ordinance would require more

staff time to incorporate into the Land Development Regulations.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes to set a Public Hearing on November 28, 2000 to adopt the ordinance. John Williams, Hank Kowalski and Clayton Womer spoke in favor of the ordinance and commended the presentators. Ms. Stewart stated that the NRAC committee envisions an educational process for the developer and land clearer on what the ordinance is trying to accomplish. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 198.

7. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda as listed. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits September 29, 2000, and October 10, 2000

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to pay employee benefits as listed:

September 29, 2000	\$175,915.57
October 10, 2000	\$ 50,353.67

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. County Administrator: Request to approve Group Health Plan Amendment #5

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve Amendment # 5 to become a part of the Employee Benefit Plan effective October 1, 2000. This amendment clarifies Well Child Care for Children up to age sixteen (16), per Florida Statute. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Commissioner Gose: Report on meeting with SFWMD staff regarding Lockett Estate property transfer

Commissioner Gose reported on last week's meeting with the Water Management District staff. The County was hoping to secure title to the 395 acres, where the Lockett home, outbuildings and one-room schoolhouse are located. The SFWMD officials are reluctant to deed over more than 50-70 acres because they do not know the full impact of the Kissimmee River restoration project. They are willing to give a portion of the 103-132 parcel. John Morgan, SFWMD, shared that the District wants to do what they can to help implement Phase I of the Master Plan. They are not interested in the house project, but will try to help the county get where they want to go. Fred Davis, the District's Director of Land Stewardship, stated that they could deed that portion of 132 to complete Phase I. However, the district doesn't believe they have to deed the entire 395 acres to the County. The district has agreed to move the schoolhouse to the estate, at their expense. However, the grant could be in jeopardy, as the state may not agree with relocating historic buildings. Allon Fish, representing the Sebring Chamber and CVB, spoke in favor of the project. Betty Neale, Executive Director of FHREDI, stated that the grants are very firm on the time frame and cannot be extended. She is still holding a grant for \$268,334 and one for \$25,000 that has not been executed with a time frame of June. The funds are here but we need to proceed. John Morgan stated that the process of seeking board approval for surplus and transfer of these lands will require substantial staff preparation. He estimated that they could complete these tasks in four to six months. However, it will not require governing board approval for district staff to move forward with the necessary background work to amend the existing management agreement, conduct the evaluation of what to surplus and prepare the real estate transaction documents. Therefore, rather than present the county's conceptual management plan to the Governing Board and request the

donation of lands in October, he would strongly recommend that the County withdraw its request to be on the agenda and work with the District to accomplish the objectives described. See SMB 37 Page 199 for copy of SFWMD information.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to move forward with the Grants for restoration of the buildings at the Edna Pearce Lockett Estate, based on input from the Board Attorney, regarding the owner of the grants, staff not attend the District meeting and continue to work with the Water Management District to control the property at the site. Commissioner Stokes questioned where the responsibility lies if the County spends the money and then does not end up owning the land. Carl Cool advised that the County may have to give the money back. John Morgan stated that the land is public land now. It is not fully open to the public because of the management agreement with the County. With a period of time, when the Plan is developed, it will be fully open. If for some reason that the County gets out, it will still be open to the public, and he will put that in writing. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, OCTOBER 17, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by the Human Services Director, Kevin Roberts, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending, October 17, 2000.

- B. **Clerk:**

No report presented.

- C. **Announcements:**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda with the addition of a budget amendment and resolution to accompany Consent agenda item number 10, under the County Administrator, as Item I - 2. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

- A. **Approval of a resolution designating Courtroom "A" as the Clifton M. Kelly Courtroom**

L. E. "Luke" Brooker, Clerk of Courts, presented a resolution into the record with request to designate Courtroom "A" as the Clifton M. Kelly Courtroom. He read the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution designating Courtroom "A" as the Clifton M. Kelly, Circuit Judge Retired Courtroom. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 78.

- B. **Approval of a resolution declaring November 2000, as National Epilepsy Awareness Month**

County Administrator Carl Cool read the resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to adopt Resolution declaring November 2000, as the National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 79.

- C. **Approval of a resolution recognizing Ag-Venture**

County Administrator Carl Cool read the resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Stokes,

seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt Resolution recognizing the Ag Venture event held September 19-21, 2000, and recognizing the group of Darlene Phipers, Danielle Daum, and Christine Waller for their hard work and commitment as the organizers of the event. Vicki Pontius praised the group for their participation in the Ag-Venture. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 80.

D. Operations Manager:

1. Approval of FRDAP Grant - DeSoto City ballfield

Vicki Pontius presented the request for approval of the contract agreement. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the contract agreement for the construction of the DeSoto City ballfield, using a reimbursable FRDAP grant. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 200.

2. Approval of RPAC recommendation on playground funding - City of Sebring

Vicki Pontius presented recommendations of RPAC on playground funding for the City Pier Beach Playground. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the expenditure of \$8,500.00 from the recreational infrastructure funds for partial funding of playground equipment for the Sebring City Pier, along with the accompanying budget amendment. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See City of Sebring file.

E. Emergency Medical Services Director: Update on Support Squad

Rick Weigand, EMS Director, presented an update on the Support Squad. The Support Squad originated in 1976. The original mission of the Support Squad was to provide a group of trained personnel to back up/support EMS in times of need such as mass casualties, evacuations, and additional coverage. Fund raising is another important mission of the Support Squad, to provide equipment and training not funded by the County budget.

Membership -

Support Squad membership is open to any County resident who is a State certified EMT and passes a driving and criminal background check. Each member is required to volunteer eight hours per month riding as a third person on a County EMS ambulance. This allows the members to maintain proficiency and gain new skills and knowledge.

The Support Squad as a group has donated approximately 900 hours a year for the past five years while working for the EMS department. This figure does not include the hours donated for special projects such as:

1. Volunteer hours for standby coverage for the County Fair
2. "Home for the Holidays" program for area nursing home residents
3. Coverage for the Heritage Festival - Lockett Estate

Race Coverage -

EMS Support Squad also provides BLS standby coverage for events at Sebring International Raceway. The Support Squad charges the Raceway \$70.00 per hour for these events. Over the years the charges have been \$40.00, \$50.00 and \$60.00 per hour until 1998 when the \$70.00 per hour charge was approved. In 1982, the County began charging the Support Squad \$10.00 per hour for the use/rental of a BLS ambulance and equipment. This fee has not changed since 1982.

In 1994, the Support Squad membership approved to begin paying its members when providing coverage for a paid event. This rate has been paid at \$8.00 per hour, \$10.00 per hour, and is currently \$12.00 per

hour. The appropriate taxes and withholdings have been filed by the Support Squad.

Donations -

The Support Squad has always played a role in providing fund raising. Prior to earning funds from race events, the Support Squad held dances, barbecues and road blocks to raise money. During the past ten years, the Support Squad has donated more than \$75,000.00 of documented equipment to the County.

Due to the recent questions concerning the Support Squads' operations, the County has curtailed the operations of this organization until the County staff, County Attorney and Support Squad representatives review current operations. During the next several weeks, Board staff will be holding discussions with the Support Squad membership to establish the future direction the organization would like to take. The recommended direction will then be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for its review and approval.

Rick also presented an update on the EMS billing issue. As of October 6, 2000, all the billing was completed for the 9/30/00 close out. He shared that the company that the County contracted with is doing well. Bills mailed out were just more than three million dollars for the last fiscal year, which is an all time record. This was approximately a \$400,000 increase over the past fiscal year, with no fee increases. EMS collected just more than 2.1 million dollars the past fiscal year. He feels that the staff is on the right track. Commissioner Maxcy presented questions to the EMS Director for review. See EMS file for copy.

- **Jim Stanfill - Economic Development Commission**

Mr. Stanfill presented the results of a labor survey done by Ulrich Research Services among working households living within a 40-mile radius of Sebring, Florida. The purpose of the survey was to estimate the size of the available labor force living within four 10-mile "rings" around Sebring, profile the labor force in terms of occupational and demographic characteristics, and to measure the degree of interest the labor force would have in working for a company in Sebring. See Economic Development file for copy of the results.

F. Assistant County Administrator: Update, discussion and execution of Mitigation Grant

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, presented an update on the Mitigation Grant. In March of this year, the County submitted a Local Emergency Management and Mitigation Initiative Application. The request was for the retrofit of nine schools, based on a cost per square foot estimate. The request totaled \$1,350,000.00 from the State, with a match of \$168,750.00 proposed from the Board, and \$168,750.00 proposed from the School Board. The grant has been partially funded at \$250,000.00 by the State. This would result in a \$31,250.00 match by each local agency, with a total grant availability of \$312,500.00.

Mr. Portz met with Mrs. Hunnicutt of Chastain-Skillman for review with the Countys' continuing contractor, and Dr. Smith of the School Board for his review. They looked at a school in each area and determined that Lake Placid would be the most suitable. Mrs. Hunnicutt spent the day reviewing the Lake Placid School. As of this time, the Architect would be unwilling to prepare a scope of work, based on these grant requirements. His recommendation is not to execute the document until more information is obtained. He will bring his recommendation before the Board at a later time. See Mitigation file for copy. The Board took no action.

G. Human Resources Director and Library Director: Heartland Library Cooperative Support

Fred Carino, Human Resources Director, presented a request to establish two positions, as approved by the Heartland Governing Board. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the request of the Heartland Governing Board for a Computer Support Specialist and an Information Technology Trainer position. The Computer Support Specialist will be responsible for the repair and maintenance of the computers in the Avon Park, Sebring, Lake Placid, Hardee, DeSoto and Okeechobee libraries. The Information Technology Trainer will be providing computer training on an outreach basis to senior citizens in Highlands, Hardee, DeSoto and Okeechobee Counties. The funding for the Computer Support Specialist is from the Heartland's recurring State Aid to Libraries grant and the funding for the Information Technology Trainer is from our Graying the Net grant, which will go into effect on October 1, 2000. Commissioner Bullard spoke in support of the positions. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Library file for copy.

H. Board Attorney:

1. Approval of contracts for the CDBG "Home Depot" Economic Development Grant

Ross Macbeth reviewed the contracts for the CDBG "Home Depot" Economic Development Grant. The Home Depot is committing to the terms and conditions to satisfy the Grant. The project agreement provides additional items for the County. They will pay up to \$3,000 of the Attorneys' fees incurred by the County in negotiating the agreements. They are also committing to the Board that if DCA does not advance funds or requires the repayment of some of the funds, they will make good on those payments. There is no personal guarantee as Home Depot is a huge corporation, and the contract has substance. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve contracts for the CDBG Home Depot Economic Development Grant, as recommended by the Board Attorney. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Home Depot file for copy.

2. Approval of amendment to Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit Number S555513, and second amendment to Subdivision Improvement Agreement for Tomoka Heights Subdivision - Section IV

Ross Macbeth presented the request for approval of the amendment agreement for Tomoka Heights Subdivision - Section IV. Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, stated that he has no problem with the agreement. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve an amendment to the Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit Number S555513, and second amendment to Subdivision Improvement Agreement for the Tomoka Heights Subdivision Section IV. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See safe file for copy.

I. County Administrator: Approval of meeting and agenda schedule for the 2001 Board meetings

County Administrator Carl Cool presented a meeting and agenda schedule for the 2001 Board meetings. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt the schedule as presented. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 201 for copy.

2. Accompanying Budget amendment and Resolution to Consent agenda item number 10

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendment #00-01-3 to bring forward funds for the Refuse Disposal System, and the Landfill Closure Program for a project to install leachate treatment system improvements. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. See Res. Book 14 Page 81.

A. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as follows:

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits as listed:**

Law Library	161.35
General	1,034,477.21
County Transportation Trust	32,975.95
E911 Operations	17,178.90
Intergovt Radio Communications	111,373.38
Legal Air	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	16,208.49
Community Development Block	4,500.00
Affordable Housing Assistance	31,616.45
Special Law Enforcement	810.50
Solid Waste	18,868.13
Placid Utilities	4,886.17
Highway Park Utility	340.27
Risk Retention Fund	1,607.34
Employee Benefit	82,103.32
Highlands Hospital pass thru	60,000.00
2. **Approval of minutes of the meetings of September 26, 2000, and October 3, 2000.**
3. **Accept into the record 1999-2000 Annual Report of Board of County Commissioners' Departments to the Board. See file for copy.**
4. **Accept into the record the Medical Examiners Commission's 1999 Annual Report. See file for copy.**
5. **Approval of Courthouse restoration/repair proposal contract, budget amendment and resolution. See Chastain Skillman file for copy. See Res. Book 14 Page 82.**
6. **Accept into the record the Highlands County Housing Authority's first annual audit.**
7. **Accept into the record the tax rate, budget resolutions, and legal description of the lands in the county lying within the boundaries of the South Florida Water Management District. See Res. Book 14 Page 83.**
8. **Approval of budget amendments for FY 99-00-428 (correct deficiency in various accounts) 99-00-431(CJIS expenses) FY 00-01-8 (Recycling Grant) 00-01-10 (Facilities Management overtime) 00-01-17 (Waterline replacement) 00-01-22 (Refuse Disposal monitoring well analyses) FY 99-00-432(Hardee County housing of inmates and medical expenses) and FY 00-01-16 General Fund (software differences between the Finance System and the Budget System).**
9. **Approval of resolutions & budget amendments 00-01-3 (Phase I Leachate Treatment System) 00-01-7 (Adjust Property Appraiser's budget) 00-01-11 (remodeling of the Ag-Civic Center Auditorium) 00-01-15 (Sebring Library expansion) 00-01-19 (Heritage Festival funds roll over) 00-01-20 (CDBG Home Depot Infrastructure). See Res. Book 14 Page 84.**
10. **Approval of PBS&J, Inc. Task Authorization No. 4 to prepare landfill closure plan & budget amendment 00-01-14. See SMB 37 Page 202.**
11. **Approval of execution of grant contracts for Children's Museum of the**

**Highlands, Florida Ridge Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Inc., Ridge Area
Association for Retarded Citizens; the Convention & Visitors Bureau of
Highlands County, Inc. See Grants 2000-2001 file.**

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

Richard Conover presented comments regarding the Character trait "Loyalty."

6. COMMISSIONERS

No reports presented.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, OCTOBER 24, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida with the following members present:

David Flowers	C Michael Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Whitbeck presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending, October 24, 2000.

- B. **Clerk:**

No report presented.

- C. **Upcoming meetings:**

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **Public hearing to consider vacating plat - Highlands County School Board/Sunset Terrace Subdivision**

Proof of Publication and Petition entered into the record by Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer. See SMB 37 Page 203. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to vacate all of the lots, blocks, parkways, streets, alleys, avenues, boulevards and highways, of Sunset Terrace Subdivision. Staff has reviewed the plat vacation and all departments have answered with no objections. There was no objection from all the utility companies. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Kathy Hayward, representing the office of Attorney John McClure spoke in favor of the plat vacation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 85.

5. **Public hearing to consider proposed consistency zoning change**

Petition and Proof of Publication entered into the record by Jim Polatty, Development Services Director. See SMB 37 Page 204.

NEW BUSINESS: HEARING # 1570 - SPECIAL AREA 1 - CONSISTENCY ZONING CHANGES:

SITE 1 - SUSAN FRANKEL - Lots, 1, 2, and 3, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 2 - JAMES N. & KATHRYN J. WELLONS - Lot 4, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 3 - MARY F. WELLONS, TRUST - Lot 5, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 4 - JOSEPH F. JR., & SHIRLEY HODGES - Lot 6, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 5 - JACK V. & NOEL Y. CARPER - Lot 7, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 6 - VALENTINE SOLER - Lot 8, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 7 - G. L. & VIRGINIA E. FORST - Lot 10, Less the East 90 feet of the South 200 feet, and all of Lot 9, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 8 - KATHLEEN ANN TAUCHEN - The South 200 feet of Lot 10, Less the West 10 feet, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 9 - ADOLPH C. & VIOLET E. HABEL - Lots 11 and 12, 13, 13.1 and 13.2, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 10 - WILLIAM J. & SUSAN E. MCLAIN - Lot 14.1, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

SITE 11 - T. KELTON, SR. & JOAN H. HILL - Lot 14.2, Block 2, Lake Josephine Subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 60 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Requesting a zoning change from R-3 (Multiple Dwelling district) to R-1A (Residential district) on the above eleven (11) sites. The Planning and Zoning Commission made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners approval of Hearing #1570 as presented including the mandatory findings in the staff report. No letters were received for or against. No one spoke for or against at the Zoning Hearing.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, in accordance with the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendations, to approve Hearing #1570, and adopt by Resolution including the mandatory findings in the staff report. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 86.

6. Public hearing to consider additional homestead exemption

Proof of Publication entered into the record by Ross Macbeth, Board Attorney. See Proof of Pub Ord. Book 2 Page 114. Captions of the ordinance were read into the record. Mr. Macbeth explained the proposal to adopt an ordinance granting an additional \$5,000 homestead exemption as provided in Section 196.075, Florida Statutes. The Chair opened the floor to the public. John Barben, representing Barben Fruit Company, spoke in opposition to the second homestead exemption. Richard Aber, Bob Bendyl, and Richard Conover spoke in favor. Gabriel Read asked that the Commission not pass the cost of the exemption onto the existing taxpayer. The Chair advised that 56% of the citizens voted for Highlands County to enact up to

\$25,000 additional homestead exemption for qualified seniors over the age of 65. He made the motion to enact a \$5,000 minimum exemption on a trial basis to see how many people would apply for it and that would give a better number for the budget forecast.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to adopt ordinance granting an additional Homestead Exemption of \$5,000 for persons sixty-five and older. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

7. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda as amended:

- Add Budget amendment 00-01-38 - to reappropriate fund balances for projects carried over from 99/00 in the Refuse Disposal System.
- Correction to Minute Book 18 Page 591 - Consent agenda item number 10.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Jeri Canale: Request for donation for The Heartland All Veterans Reunion and the Vietnam Moving Wall

Jeri Canale appeared before the Board on behalf of “The Heartland All Veterans Reunion and the Vietnam Moving Wall.” She requested that the Board consider a donation of \$10,000 to fund the Veterans Reunion. She shared that a fund-raising will be held, but she would like assurance that the money will be available if needed. Daren McNeill, representing the Stephenson Nelson Funeral, spoke in favor of the request. Rick Helms, OMB Director, identified the adopted policies set by the Board for the consideration of funding. The Board must determine that it meets a public purpose. The funding of the expenditures will be done on a reimbursement basis for review by the Budget Office and then a review and payment by the Clerk’s Office. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to allocate up to \$ 8,000 of the expenses and a budget amendment, to come out of Contingency Fund as a reimbursement. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Gabriel Read spoke in favor and requested a Resolution to the Secretary of Defense in support of veterans benefits. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 205.

B. County Engineer: Request recommended position on Sebring Parkway Phase II

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented recommendation for the Board to present at the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) scheduled Public Hearing regarding the proposed Sebring Parkway Phase II from US 27 to North Ridgewood Drive (SR 17) in Highlands County. The Hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2000 at the Sebring High School (Smith Center), 3514 Kenilworth Boulevard in Sebring beginning at 7:00 p.m.

1. Alignment Alternative No. 2, East be adopted as shown in the latest aerial overlay at Public Hearing to be held on October 24, 2000.
2. In addition to the signals being shown at DeSoto Road, Kenilworth Boulevard, and E. Center Avenue, the Board recommends signals be installed at the following locations:
 - a. Youth Care Lane
In order to accommodate State rules and access to Fred Wild Elementary School, parent drop-off and pick-up and bus traffic will be relocated to Youth Care Lane. Therefore, the placement of a signal at this intersection will be required for the safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
 - b. South Commerce Avenue

In order to accommodate State rules and access to Sebring High School, parent drop-off and pick-up traffic will be relocated access the Parkway at a four-legged intersection at S. Commerce Avenue. Therefore, the placement of a signal at this intersection will be required for the safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

c. Lemon Avenue

Concerns have been expressed from the residents of Washington Heights regarding the safe passage of children and vehicular traffic at this intersection. Upon evaluation of these comments, placement of a signal at this intersection is recommended for the safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Commissioner Bullard raised concerns regarding the number of lights that could slow the traffic. Ramon stated that we will definitely be at the maximum with the additional three lights. It will move traffic, it just won't move it as fast, but it will allow for the safe movement of traffic. He stated that steps will be taken to make traffic flow smoothly and safely, including posting slower speed limits, synchronizing the traffic lights and telling any developers that they have to provide frontage roads to channel their traffic to the intersections with traffic lights. Phase II traffic will probably be limited to 35 miles per hour. The county wants to begin building Phase II as soon as possible. The projected construction cost is nine million dollars. Right of way costs add another \$12.5 million to the cost. The design work is scheduled to start in July. Right of way acquisition funding is still being worked out.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve staff recommendations, and authorize the Chairperson of the Board to sign the attached letter to the Florida Department of Transportation containing the adopted recommendations. The Chair opened the floor to the public.

A. J. "Bucky" Kahn spoke in opposition to the design of the road, as it is not user friendly for the doctors and patients to get from the north side of Highlands, where the offices are located. He recommended an alternate route. Loren Eby spoke in favor but suggested a viaduct for the doctors.

The Chair questioned if the alternate route was explored. Ramon advised that DOT did respond to the suggested route. Their response was threefold. Additional right-of-way would be required, and they would be adding two miles to the construction costs. Also, other alternatives were considered. The Board did ask DOT to suspend work on the project for about four (4) years. Then the decision was made to move forward with this alignment. This decision is not a design. It is just a proposed alignment. Commissioner Maxcy discussed the safety issue. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 37 Page 206.

C. Correction to Minute Book 18 Page 591 - Consent agenda item number 10.

The County Administrator asked for approval of an accompanying Budget amendment and Resolution to Consent agenda item number 10. This item was misstated. It should have read accompanying Budget amendment and Resolution to Consent agenda item number 9. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to amend the minutes to reflect that action. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

D. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of budget amendment 00-01-38.

- 1. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits for 10/24/00 in the amount of \$58,035.79 and employee benefits for 10/31/00.**

- 2. **Request to carryover remaining funds allocated in 1999-2000 budget to new fiscal year**
(Remaining funds of \$2,006.81 in the Historic Preservation Commission’s 1999-2000 Budget be carried over to the 2000–2001 Budget Year to complete proposed display project). See SMB 37 Page 207.

- 3. **Request approval of budget amendment 00-01-12 & execution of Regional Planning Council SQG Verification program contract**
Reallocate funds to cover increase in contract with Central Florida Regional Planning Council for Small Quantity Generator (SQG) of Hazardous Waste verification program.

- 4. **Request to approve resolutions & budget amendments 00-01-25 & 26**
Reappropriate funds from the Project Fund Balance Brought Forward account to the current Project Contractual Services account to accommodate the Southwest Florida’s matching funds grant awarded to assist Highlands county in water sampling and analysis of lakes on the Lake Wales Ridge, and to bring funds from the Fund Balance Brought Forward account into the Professional Services account to effect merging the County’s Land Development Regulation with the Zoning Code. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 87.

- 1. **Request approval of construction contract number 00-099 with LaGrow Systems, Inc.** (improvements to the Leachate Treatment System at the Highlands County Solid Waste Management Center)
 - A. **Budget amendment 00-01-38 and Resolution to reappropriate fund balances for projects carried over from 99/00 in the Refuse Disposal System.** See Res. Book 14 Page 88.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, NOVEMBER 7, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, by Chairperson David Flowers with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Guy Maxcy, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson David Flowers advised that, since it is Election Day, he will be leaving the meeting early to participate with the Canvassing Board. He will be turning the meeting over to the Vice Chair C. Guy Maxcy.

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending, November 7, 2000.

- B. **Clerk:**

C. Michael Eastman, Director of Accounting and Finance, advised that all of the Constitutional Officers Financial Reports were filed in a timely manner and the unexpended budget and interest was deposited into the Boards' account.

- C. **Announcements:**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to set the Action agenda with changes as follows:

- Replacement for Item number H.6 (budget amendment 00-01-43) to be placed under the County Administrator for action.
- Item number I-5, (budget amendment number 00-01-44), add a last page to the budget amendment.
- Consent agenda Item number 17 - delete words *base grant and regular*, to read approval of budget amendments 00-01-35 & 36.
- Add additional information to Item 4-F.
- Add Leisure Lakes Homeowner's Association fee request as Item F-1.
- Delete Item E-1 under the County Engineer, to be heard at a later date.
- Add Item H-8 under the County Administrator - request to waive dumping fees for the Lake Placid Craft Fair.
- Remove Consent agenda Item I-9 and place under the County Administrator at the request of Richard Conover.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

A. Wilson Elliott, Avon Park Estates Homeowners Association: Presentation of awards to County Administrator and Commissioners

Wilson Elliott, representing the Avon Park Estates Homeowners Association, presented awards to the County Administrator Carl Cool, Commissioners Flowers, Maxcy, Gose, Bullard, and Stokes, in appreciation for their support with the Avon Park Estates Homeowners' assessment. He also presented flowers to Deputy Clerk, Louise Graham. The Chair applauded Wilson Elliott for his continued efforts with the Association. The time now being 9:18 A.M., the Chairperson left the meeting to participate with the Canvassing Board Count. Vice Chair C. Guy Maxcy assumed the gavel and continued the meeting.

B. Linda Crowder, The Children's Museum of the Highlands: Request for additional funding

Linda Crowder, Director of the Children's Museum, presented a request to the Commission for additional funding in the amount of \$10,000 to provide funds for programs offered by the Museum. County Administrator Carl Cool stated that the County has provided funding in the amount of \$2,000 each year to the museum, as asked in the budget. The City of Sebring will also be asked to fund \$10,000. Mr. Cool suggested that the county not define the facility as a recreational resource, as the Interlocal agreement between the two entities could cause the county to fund 40 percent of the city's contribution. Commissioner Bullard questioned if this request meets the criteria for midyear funding purposes. Budget Officer Rick Helms shared that it does meet the public purpose criteria, but the time sensitive issue should be determined by the Board of County Commissioners, as it would only delay, not prevent the project from taking place. Commissioner Bullard, Stokes and Maxcy spoke in favor of the funding. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Clayton Womer stated that the funding request should have been brought up at budget time. Marilyn Jacobs spoke in favor of the request.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the request for \$10,000 for the Childrens Museum and a budget amendment to fund through the General Fund Contingency. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Clayton Womer stated that he supported the cause but not the timing of the project. Rick Helms requested that the funding be on a reimbursable basis, in order to have sufficient documentation in the records that could be reviewed by the Finance Department for payment. Commissioner Bullard accepted this as a part of his motion. Ms. Crowder advised that the reimbursement could cause problems when her Board is trying to decide which direction they are headed. However, she will not request the money until she knows exactly what she is spending it on. Commissioner Bullard asked that staff use a combined system, where the documentation is presented to staff, showing each expenditure, and after the check is sent, the museum brings back final documentation. Commissioner Stokes accepted the amendment. Mike Eastman, Accounting and Finance Director, shared that it would not be his preference, but staff can make it work. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Children's Museum for copy of funding request.

C. Lt. Susan Benton: Request to accept the Public Safety Coordinating Council recommendation of the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to accept the Public Safety Coordinating Council recommendation of the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant to purchase an inmate transportation slide-in unit to separate inmates, a Mobile Crime Scene Unit, and a Replacement Command Post for situations where the sheriff's office is providing either security or setting up an investigation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

D. Animal Control Director: Request to approve a no-cost spay/neuter program procedures

Tom Portz presented request for Keith Albritton, Animal Control Director, that the Highlands County Animal Control utilize the same qualification procedures as the Human Services Department uses for their County-funded assistance programs. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the no-costs spay/neuter program procedures. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 1.

E. County Engineer:

1. ~~Request to approve FDOT joint project agreement FM#198902. Memorandum of Agreement and resolution for the design phase of Sebring Parkway Phase II from US 27 to SR 17. Item deleted.~~

2. **Request to approve the contract document guide on ITB #00-100 off-site infrastructure for Home Depot, a CDBG project**

Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer, presented staff recommendations for approval of the contract document guide on ITB#00-100 off-site infrastructure for Home Depot, a CDBG project. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve contracts in the sum of \$680,387.00, contingent upon receiving the executed CDBG contract between Highlands County and DCA and the release of funds notification. The contract will then be executed. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 2.

F. Assistant County Administrator: Request approval of the Jail Master Plan architect contract

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, reviewed the minutes of the Professional Services Acquisition Committee with recommendation on the jail master plan contract in the amount of \$59,510.00. Commissioner Bullard questioned if the amount of the contract is within the budgeted amount. Tom advised that the initial amount for architectural services was \$168,000. The final fee will be determined by the type of facility constructed, which will be determined by the master update. Architectural services could exceed the budget depending on the type of facility that we build. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the contract with Post, Buckley, Schuh & Jernigan, Inc., subject to the Board Attorney's approval. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See file for copy.

1. **Professional Services Acquisition Committee-request to remove members**

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the request of the Asst. County Administrator to remove Tim Eures and Mr. Ritchie from the Professional Services Acquisition Committee due to the sunshine problems. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. **Fee Waiver Leisure Lakes Homeowner's Association**

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve request to waive the fee for the Leisure Lakes Homeowners Association for utilization of the Bishop Park facility for its anticipated three meetings. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 3.

Break 10:10: a.m. - 10:24 a.m.

G. Board Attorney

No report presented.

H. County Administrator:**1. Request to approve Interlocal agreement with the City of Sebring for recreation**

Carl Cool reviewed the agreement with the City of Sebring for recreation reimbursement for operation and maintenance expense. This agreement also includes capital item expenses. The Board discussed the total amount of the cost. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Interlocal agreement with the City of Sebring for recreation with modification to the amount. Commissioner Bullard asked the County Administrator to make sure that the City of Sebring in their projected budget, remove the income from recreational facilities, prior to seeking reimbursement funds. Ross Macbeth questioned some of the items on the list. He asked for more justification from the City on the items. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to table the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The Board directed county staff to work with Bob Hoffman on the details and bring back at a later date.

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, introduced the new Housing Coordinator, Penny Jessel. She was welcomed on board by the Commission.

2. Request to approve Interlocal agreement with the City of Avon Park for the Durrah Martin Baseball Project

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the Interlocal agreement with the City of Avon Park for the Durrah Martin Baseball Project. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See City of Avon Park file.

3. Request for additional renovation funding and budget amendment #00-01-42 for STAR Program

County Administrator Carl Cool presented a list of materials and subcontractors needed to complete the conversion of the Highway Park Fire Station to the Star Center and proposed construction schedule for the completion of the job. Total cost listed at \$5,237.33. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve budget amendment 00-01-42 for the renovation of the VFD building to be used by the Star Program. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Richard Conover suggested that the motion include the words *to complete the project*. The County Administrator stated that he is not opposed to asking for future funding for this project. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 4.

4. Request appointment to Industrial Development Authority Board

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the appointment of Mike Vinson to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Jonathan Jones on the Industrial Development Authority Board. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 5 for copy of the resume.

5. Request approval of Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring for CR 634 Lakeview Drive from Park Street to Edgewater Point Drive

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring for CR 634 Lakeview Drive from Park Street to Edgewater Point Drive. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 page 6.

6. Request approval of budget amendments 00-01-43 (Interpreters and Court Cases) and 99-00-438 (fiscal year closing in the General Fund) 99-00-439 dealing with Transportation Trust.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendments as requested. The Commission deferred action on the budget amendments to allow staff to research for corrected reserve balance. The motion was withdrawn.

~~7. Request approval of budget amendments and resolutions 00-01-45 (Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force Grant) 00-01-46 (Law Enforcement grants).~~

8. Request to waive the Landfill Dumping fees for the Lake Placid Festival Assoc.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to waive the Landfill dumping fees for the Lake Placid Festival Association. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

9. Consent agenda Item number 9

Commissioner Bullard advised that he has provided information to Richard Conover regarding this item and he is in agreement for the item to be placed back on the Consent agenda. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Gose to place Consent agenda Item number 9 back on the agenda for action. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye.

10. Request approval of budget amendments 99-00-438 (fiscal year closing in the General Fund) 99-00-439 dealing with Transportation Trust.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendments as requested. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to pull Consent agenda item # 16, the Home Depot administration contract to be discussed by the Board. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

11. Consent agenda item number 16- request approval of the Home Depot CDBG administration contract with Fred Fox

The Board Attorney requested that this contract be approved contingent upon receiving the award agreement signed by the Department of Community Affairs and funding approval. The agreement is from Fred Fox Enterprises. The amount of the Administration contract is \$45,250 to be paid in monthly installments as the project proceeds. It provides for Mr. Fox to assist with the public meeting and documentation and the administration of the grant. The monies will come from the grant. The Chair asked for public input. Fred Fox spoke in favor. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve to hire Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc. to administer the Economic Development Community Block Grant for Home Depot contract, contingent upon DCA approval of the award agreement, funding the grant and authorizing the expenditures. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 7.

12. Rick Helms - Items 6 & 7 -Budget amendments

Request approval of budget amendments 00-01-43 (Interpreters and Court Cases) budget amendments and resolutions 00-01-45 (Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force Grant) 00-01-46 (Law Enforcement grants).

Rick Helms, OMB Director, explained the reserve balance after the processing of the budget amendments. Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendments as requested. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 91.

I. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda, less item number 16.

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits

Law Library	2,075.02
General	1,957,980.56
County Transportation Trust	150,692.40
E911 Operations	56,471.22
Intergovt Radio Communications	16,096.23
Conservation Trust Fund	30,948.19
Local Govt Infra Surtax	60,039.66
Affordable Housing Assistance	42,189.29
Government Center	33,461.75
Solid Waste	166,361.84
Placid Utilities	36,943.47
Highway Park Utility	5,298.14
Risk Retention Fund	2,162.48
Employee Benefit	139,783.83
Highlands Hospital pass thru	11,253.25

2. Approval of minutes of board meetings of October 10, 2000, October 17, 2000, and October 24, 2000.
3. Accept into record the Constitutional Officer's Financial Reports for Fiscal Year 1999-2000. See Financial Reports file.
4. Approval of budget amendments 00-01-40 (FDEP Operational permit for Class I Landfill permit) 99-00-435 (Clerk year end realignment) 99-00-437 (General Fund fiscal year closing) 99-00-440 (Enterprise funds year end closing).
5. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 00-01-29 (to re-appropriate unspent grant funds SHIP) 00-01-30 (to reappropriate unspent grant funds from 99-2000 budget) 00-01-37 (SHIP Program Phase 9) 00-01-41 (Corrections Facilities Expansion) 00-01-44 (Public Law Library, BCC County Admin., County Audits to bring prior purchase orders forward) 99-00-436 (Special Law Enforcement year end realignment of appropriations) 99-00-441 (E911 Fund Balance appropriation for fiscal year close out). See Res. Book 14 Page 89.
6. Request to approve Hospital District Board grants as follows:
 - A. *Highlands County Health Department (To allow the Department to participate in Closing the Gap State grant program) - \$34,000.*
 - B. *Highlands County Stay Well Clinic (for their new prescription drug*

program for the indigent) - \$30,000.

C. Central Florida Health Care (to enhance and expand program to include Highlands County's 15,000 veterans) - \$53,165.

See Hospital District file for copy.

7. Request to approve notice of nuisance - Case # CE00030035, Lawrence Ave. Sebring. See SMB 38 Page 9.
8. Request to approve notice of nuisance - Case #CE00020074, Gobourne Street, Avon Park. See SMB 38 Page 10.
9. Request to approve funding for a replacement vehicle. See SMB 38 Page 11.
10. Request to approve an amortization schedule for the new Tomoka well loan. See SMB 38 Page 11.
11. Request to approve CSA No. 29 with Chastain-Skillman, Inc. for preparing design and bid documents for expansion of leachate recirculation. See SMB 38 Page 12.
12. Request to approve CSA No. 28 with Chastain-Skillman, Inc. for engineering design permitting, preparation of construction bid documents for Landfill gas control system. See SMB 38 Page 13.
13. Request to approve CSA No. 31 with Chastain-Skillman, Inc. for updated report on groundwater monitoring at the Highlands County Solid Waste Management Center. See SMB 38 Page 14.
14. Request to approve Medicare Electronic Funds Transfer agreement. See EMS file for copy.
15. Request to approve agreement with Florida Hospital Heartland (Kyle Simpson).
16. ~~Request approval of the Home Depot CDBG administration contract with Fred Fox Enterprises, Inc.~~
17. Request approval of budget amendments 00-01-35 (to move Base Grant funds from Capital Machinery and Equipment into Rentals and Leases to provide monies for the DTN Weather Satellite) & 00-01-36(to move funds from Repair and Maintenance into Other Salaries and Wages to provide funding for an OPS position until EOC Specialist position is filled). See SMB 38 Page 18.
18. Request approval of execution of grant contract for Nu-Hope of Highlands County, Inc.
19. Request to approve CSA No. 30 with Chastain-Skillman, Inc. to prepare construction plans, specifications, and bid documents for DeSoto City Ballfield. See SMB 38 Page 15.
20. Request approval of change in application and public hearing schedules for Planning & Zoning cases to allow more time for staff to review development proposals. See SMB 38 Page 16.
21. Accept into the record the Clerk of Courts' October 2000 budgetary expenditure schedule. See SMB 38 Page 17.
22. Request approval of a resolution to establish public hearing for November 28, 2000 to consider closing a strip of land located at the Easterly right of way boundary line of Blossom Lane. See Res. Book 14 Page 90.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

- Ramon Gavarrete gave an update on the delay of traffic lights at Highway 27 and Northwood Blvd. at the request of Herb Phillips. He stated that the request was not included on DOT's work program. They are now in the process of amending the work program but it will not be adopted until July of 2001 and then the Board will get a final approval of the program. Ramon will be speaking to Debbie Snyder, the new Operations Traffic Engineer to see if we can accelerate the process. The Board could advance the funds to DOT and expect reimbursement in the 5th year. Ramon will report back next week.
- Richard Conover presented comments regarding the minutes of the Value Adjustment Board meetings. Commissioner Gose advised that the final meeting was held and the Board upheld the Special Master and the findings of facts. Deputy Clerk, Louise Graham, advised that the minutes were completed and they are available for review.
- Jim Cash of Lake Placid spoke regarding the drawdown and fish limits in Lake Placid. Carl Cool gave a brief update on the restoration and the hydrilla schedule.

6. COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Stokes requested information from the County Engineer regarding the street lights that are out on 98 at the railroad track. Ramon advised that staff is in the process of replacing the lights. They were replaced recently and have been shot out.
- Commissioner Stokes stated concern regarding the removal of boat ramps with the Kissimmee River Restoration. The plans are to replace only one boat ramp. He suggested that the Board get involved. Mr. Cool recommended that we form a committee, and the Press write an article asking people to serve on a Recreation Accessibility Committee for the Kissimmee River Restoration.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, NOVEMBER 14, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, with the following members present:

David Flowers	Mike Eastman
C. Guy Maxcy	Carl Cool
Edgar E Stokes	J Ross Macbeth
Bob Bullard	Louise Graham
James L Gose	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Chairperson David Flowers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair advised that the Board will take a recess at 10:00 a.m. to hold a reception in the lobby for outgoing Commissioner Jim Gose. Refreshments will be served in his honor.

A. Sheriff:

Lt. Alex Whitbeck presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending, November 14, 2000. Lt. Whitbeck also presented a request for execution of the Sheriff's Federal Annual Certification Report for the years ending 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000. Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve execution of the Sheriff's Certification report in order to receive their portion of federal forfeiture. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Sheriff's file for copy of report.

B. Clerk:

No report presented.

C. Upcoming County meetings:

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **Workshop to consider creating a Countywide Fire District**

Chair David Flowers opened the Workshop. He reported that the County Task Force has been meeting for the last two years on this issue. A Fire Services Study was received from MGT of America, Inc. The Board accepted the recommendations concerning the establishment of a countywide fire services district. In order to proceed with the implementation, the county will be required to publish four notices of intent to create the district. This should be done by the year 2000. This did not come as a direct recommendation from the Fire Services Task Force. It was brought to him by Treasa Handley, Assessment Coordinator. She advised that if we did not establish the district by the end of

this year, it could postpone the project for another two years. Treasa Handley said that there will be no assessments levied until the 2001 tax bills. There must be three public hearings held. The first one will be held in two weeks to adopt the ordinance to create the district. Then there will be one held in January, to adopt the uniform method of collections. In 2001, between June 1 and September 15th, the third hearing will be held to set the assessment. The Chair advised that at this time we are not ready for the implementation of the plan, but he would like the Board to establish the County as a district, and not place any assessment or name any station boundaries at this time. It will not dissolve any taxing districts or change any structure of the districts that are in place. Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, outlined the plan that affects only residents of the unincorporated area and the Town of Lake Placid, which has a volunteer fire department. The cities of Avon Park and Sebring are not involved. There has already been some mini-consolidation, such as the Sebring Airport, allowing DeSoto City to provide service and Highway Park is now a part of the Lake Placid Volunteer Fire Department. Ross Macbeth stated that the public will be greatly involved in the process.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Jim Penrod of Lake Placid stated that the task force made up of the Fire Chiefs have served well, but he would recommend that we add business people to the task force. The Chair advised that this recommendation will be taking place in January.

Commissioner Guy Maxcy asked that the new Commissioner elect, Andy Jackson give his thoughts on the consolidation proposal. Jackson said that he opposed it during his campaign for office but added that didn't mean he couldn't be convinced to support it. He would be interested in seeing some cost figures on the proposal. Harry Mottinger of Lake Placid, spoke in favor of the Countywide Fire District.

The Chair closed the workshop at 9:45 A.M. See SMB 38 Page 19 for copy of information.

5. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda as follows:

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits November 14, 2000

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Maxcy, to approve payment of employee benefits in the amount of \$ 101,841.99. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. County Administrator:

1. Request to consider a Public Hearing to create a Countywide Fire District

Motion by Commissioner Gose, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set a Public Hearing date for November 28, 2000, to consider a proposal for a Countywide Fire District. Commissioner Gose asked if staff will have the numbers available at this time. The County Administrator advised that the numbers will be available by the second public hearing in June. The Task Force will have deadlines to

establish numbers or the Board could set a zero assessment. Treasa Handley stated that most residents of the unincorporated area already pay an annual assessment of some kind for fire protection. It is primarily \$20-\$25 per home or \$100-\$150 for a commercial building. There are some exceptions, such as Venus or Lincoln Heights. It is a taxing district but the County Commission did not impose a levy. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Request approval of an Interlocal Agreement for lighting at South Florida Community College

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve Interlocal Agreement between Highlands County and South Florida Community College for the Panther Baseball Field Lighting project. Commissioner Bullard suggested a provision to the contract that states that the College will add additional access to the field for community activities. The amendment was accepted by the maker of the motion and the second. The Board directed Ross Macbeth to add the language. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Request approval to purchase a slope laser from Sebring Parkway project funds

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Gose, to approve the request of Bruce Van Jaarsveld, Road and Bridge Superintendent, to purchase a slope laser with funds from the Sebring Parkway project in the amount of \$9,180.00 plus the rental fee paid of \$1,200. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 20.

4. Reconsideration of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring for recreation

Chair Flowers declared a conflict and stated that he owns a corporation that is contracted to perform maintenance for the City of Sebring. He entered into the record a memorandum of voting conflict to become a part of the minutes. See SMB 38 Page 21.

Carl Cool stated that he and Rick Helms met with Bob Hoffman and John Boutwell from the City of Sebring regarding this agreement. It is his recommendation, after the discussion, that we remove from Exhibit B - Melaleuca control - \$2,500. The two remaining items that are in question are the Christmas lights (contract with Spiegel) and Circle Park maintenance. Mr. Hoffman is in agreement with any action that the Board wishes to take. Mr. Cool shared that he feels comfortable with all the other items. Commissioner Bullard stated that he felt that the two items could be included. Commissioner Stokes questioned whether the Town of Avon Park or Lake Placid has been included with this type of reimbursement. Staff advised that at this point they have not. Ross Macbeth noted a problem with the Civic Center item. He felt that it is not appropriate as there is no allocation between recreation and non recreation. The item could be left for audit because we know there is some recreational use. As the numbers come in over the year, the City would be charged with prorating the things that go to recreation. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of keeping the agreement as simple as possible to keep the county from spending too much time trying to figure out what should be on the list.

Commissioner Gose warned that the Board needs to be really careful, as these reimbursements can get out of hand. Commissioner Stokes recommended that the Board leave out the Christmas lights. He does not have a problem with the Circle maintenance.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sebring for recreation with the deletion of Christmas lights and Melaleuca Control. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Clayton Womer spoke in favor of City and County staff making the decision on the recreation qualification. Jim Cash of Lake Placid recommended the Commission consider the possibility of financing 40% of Lake Placid's Outdoor Drama Theater or their Community Center. Commissioner Bullard advised that Capital Expenditure items are not included within this agreement, only operating maintenance and minor capital items. Ross Macbeth advised that the agreement only shows a small amount of recreational use for the Civic Center. Commissioner Maxcy suggested that the county should renegotiate all of the agreements for next year and redefine recreation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye except Commissioner Flowers, who abstained. Motion carried.

4. Chairman Flowers - Special Tribute to Outgoing Commissioner James Gose.

A plaque was presented with a reception following in the lobby.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, NOVEMBER 21, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, with the following members present

C Guy Maxcy	Mike Eastman
Edgar E Stokes	Carl Cool
Bob Bullard	J Ross Macbeth
Andrew B Jackson	Louise Graham
David W Flowers	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by, L.E. "Luke" Brooker, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Swearing-in ceremony by Judge Olin Shinholser:**

- A. **Commissioner David Flowers**
- B. **Commissioner Guy Maxcy**
- C. **Commissioner-Elect Andrew Jackson**

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending, November 21, 2000.

- B. **Clerk:**

C. Michael Eastman, Director of Accounting and Finance, entered into the record SWFWMD Fiscal Year 2000-2001 budget, a report from the Auditor General office on the School District of Highlands County, Florida Education Finance Program, full-time Equivalent Students and Student Transportation, and the Financial Statements and external CPA Audit Report that was recently conducted on the Salvation Army's Sebring Corrections Program. See individual files for copy.

- C. **Upcoming County meetings:**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, reported that the Venus Fire Department will be closing its department, due to a manpower shortage and financial, and liability reasons. He will be working with Sun'n Lake which is twenty minutes away to provide fire protection in that area. No assessment was ever applied to the district by the county. It is an independent department created by the community to provide fire protection.

Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, advised that the animal pilot Spay and Neuter program has begun in Highlands County. A total of 33 people applied for their animals to participate in the program on the first day. He will continue to update the Board on the project.

- D. **Chairman Flowers: Presentation of certificates**

- Character recognition awards were given to Kathy Kesselring, Tony Kesselring, Charlotte Mann,

Kimberly Middleton, and Gail Roebuck

- Chairman's Certification of Appreciation was given to Michele Drake, Lisa Burley, Treasa Handley, Kimberly Middleton, Allie Carr, Ross Macbeth, Tom Portz, Carl Cool, and Cheryl Gelinas.
- Chairman Flowers also presented certificates to Commissioners Guy Maxcy, Edgar Stokes, Bob Bullard, and Jim Gose for their assistance in his tenure as Chairperson.
- Commissioner Flowers read a poem into the record written by Rev. Floyd Holland titled *I am proud to be an American*.
- C.B. Shirey, City Manager of Avon Park, presented a Resolution into the record for outgoing Commissioner, James L. Gose.
- Tom Portz, Asst. County Administrator, presented a character recognition for Allie Carr, in recognition for determination. Allie came to work for the County on a part time basis, while attending high school and dual enrollment college. Allie graduated high school in June of this year and six months later she will be completing her Associate Degree at South Florida Community College. She will be leaving Highlands County to continue her education at Tallahassee next month.

5. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Maxcy, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda with the addition of a number six under the County Administrator to include an Interlocal agreement with Highlands and Polk County regarding County Road 64. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to elect Commissioner Maxcy as Chair to the Board of County Commissioners. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

The gavel was passed to the new Chair, Guy Maxcy, and a break was called from 9:30-9:40 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to elect Commissioner Bullard as Vice Chair to the Board of County Commissioners. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Richard Conover: Approval of a resolution declaring November 2000, as Manufactured/Mobile Home Owners Month

The Chair read the Resolution into the record. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve Resolution declaring November 2000 as Manufactured/Mobile Home Owners month in Highlands County. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 97.

C. Approval of a resolution declaring November 2000, as Adoption Awareness Month

Carl Cool read the Resolution into the record. Gabriel Read spoke in favor of the Resolution. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve Resolution recognizing the month of November 2000 as Adoption Awareness Month in Highlands County. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 98.

D. Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director: Special presentation honoring Harry Mottinger for his service to Highlands County

Tim Eures, Emergency Operations Director, recognized Harry Mottinger, Lake Placid resident, and 911

committee member for his service to Highlands County on his retirement.

E. C. B. Shirey, City of Avon Park: Discussion of funding for the Memorial Field Recreation Complex/Hurricane Shelter

C.B. Shirey, City Manager representing the City of Avon Park, presented a request to the Commission for funding of the Memorial Field Recreation Complex to be used as a Hurricane Shelter. The City had requested County funding through the County's Capital Improvement Program budget. The City has budgeted \$500,000 in its Infrastructure for this project and is requesting that the county match the state funding in the amount of \$250,000. County staff, prior to the budget reaching the Commission, cut this request. Mr. Shirey has addressed the County Commission during the CIP budget hearing and was directed to pursue the request through the RPAC. They considered the request at their October 19, 2000 meeting and took no action on the item. Commissioner Bullard, liaison to RPAC, explained that the RPAC was not against the project. First, the request has not been identified as a priority. Second, the committee did not feel comfortable committing such a large amount of money this early in the 2000-01 fiscal year. The county has set aside \$600,000 for recreation this year.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Clayton Womer spoke in opposition to the project as it did not go through the budget process. Commissioner Flowers recommended that the Board continue to study the project with consideration for a countywide level. He is not in favor of making a motion at this time. Commissioner Bullard and Stokes agreed with these statements, and suggested that we study the information and maybe look at retrofitting other buildings. Commissioner Jackson also agreed that we need more study. No action was taken at this time. See SMB 38 Page 22.

F. Jim Stanfill, Executive Director: Economic Development Commission: Presentation of Avon Park Air Force Range Economic Impact Analysis

Avon Park Air Force Range has a significant economic impact on Highlands County. The Highlands County Industrial Development Authority/Economic Development Commission has taken a committed, pro-active position in keeping the Range operative. As part of that commitment, EDC had worked with the Florida Defense Alliance and received four economic development grants totaling \$128,000 over the past five years. The money from those grants have supported several important projects that include assisting with the location of the Avon Park Youth Academy to the Range, the Economic Development Strategic Plan, a marketing video about the Range, extensive print advertising in location magazines, and an economic impact study of the Range.

Since the Avon Park Bombing Range has lost its active personnel, the economic impact has dropped by more than half. The last study was done in 1993 showing an economic impact to the county of \$148,629,078. The year 2000 Economic Impact Analysis shows that the range provides 1,294 jobs with a dollar impact of \$69,688,769. Mr. Stanfill stated that one of the largest problems has been the load limit on the bridge on Bombing Range Road. Base officials say they have lost a contract to asphalt the runway because the contractor would have to double haul the materials, making the project cost-prohibitive. In addition to working with Polk County officials, the EDC is working with the Florida Defense Alliance and the Spectrum Group trying to get some help. See EDC file for copy.

**G. Assistant County Administrator:
1. Request approval of Salvation Army contract extension**

Tom Portz addressed the renewal of the Salvation Army contract extension. Ross Macbeth advised that if

both parties are in agreement to renew the contract for an additional term and the Board waives its purchasing procedures, the contract can be renewed by an addendum. He also recommended that a provision stating that the contract may be extended for additional terms of 36 months by agreement of the parties be included so that he will not have to address the same question again in three years.

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve contract extension with the Salvation Army, waive the bid process, and delete the termination date. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Ross Macbeth presented recommended changes to delete the statute dates, use the current addition, correct mistake, *Circuit* rather than Court and case levels may need correction. Commissioner Flowers accepted the amendment. Commissioner Stokes seconded the changes. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 23.

2. Consideration of 911 equipment exchange

Tom Portz presented recommendation of the 911 Committee to exchange the TEAC voice and data recorders for Mercom Systems Inc., Audiology recorders. The TEAC recorders are not functioning as presented to the 911 committee. The Board Attorney is in agreement with the exchange. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the equipment exchange. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 24.

3. Approval of Acceptance and Agreement for 01-CJ-JI-07-38-01-290/Multi Jurisdictional Task Force III grant award

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve acceptance and agreement for 01-CJ-JI-07-38-01-290/Multi jurisdictional Task Force III grant award. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

4. Request to waive fees at Agri-Civic Center for grieving parents' support group meetings

Tom Portz presented request of Shannon M. Harper to use a room at the Agri-Civic Center to hold meetings for the *grieving parents' support group*. They are in the process at this time of becoming a nonprofit organization and would only need to use a room approximately three times a month, and request that the Board waive the fees. Mr. Portz recommended that we approve the request, with an update in six months. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the request with the requirement that the group become a nonprofit organization. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 25 for copy.

H. Board Attorney

No report presented.

I. County Administrator:

1 & 2. Request to approve Court Reporting Grant-in-Aid Agreement & Article V Trust Fund Grant-in-Aid Agreement

County Administrator Carl Cool presented grant-in-aid agreements for financial assistance from the state to assist with court reporting and Article V costs. Motion by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve Court Reporting Grant-in-Aid Agreement and Article V Trust Fund Grant-in-Aid Agreement. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

See SMB 38 Page 26.

3. Request to approve a resolution approving the issuance of Revenue Bonds not to exceed \$1,000,000,000 by the Highlands County Health Facilities Authority

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the request for approval of resolutions. The Board Attorney has reviewed the documents and is in agreement with the resolutions. Attorney Mike Swaine presented revisions to two previously approved bond issues for the Adventist Health Systems/Sunbelt, Inc. The “2000 Highlands County Revolver Financing” is the same bond issue that the Board approved on June 6, 2000. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve resolution, approving the issuance by the Highlands County Health Facilities Authority of its Revenue Bonds (Adventist Health System/Sunbelt) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$1,000,000,000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Health Facilities Authority file.

4. Request to approve a resolution approving the issuance of Revenue Bonds not to exceed \$600,000,000 by the Highlands County Health Facilities Authority

The “2000 Highlands County Accounts Receivable Bonds” is a revision of the bond issue originally approved by the Board in 1996 and reapproved in June of this year. It is being expanded to cover more facilities and must be reapproved by the County. The prior approval of these bonds eliminated the \$10,000,000 that can be issued in this calendar year by the County as a “qualified small issuer,” because of the affiliation of the Authority with the County. Should the County borrow funds in calendar year 2000 and incur any additional cost due to these issues, it will be reimbursed for such additional costs under the existing Compensation Agreement between the County and the Adventist, as has been done in the past.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve resolution, approving the issuance of Revenue Bonds not to exceed \$600,000,000 by the Highlands County Health Facilities Authority. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. Approval of budget amendment 00-01-58 decreasing Transportation Reserve for Contingency

County Administrator Carl Cool presented budget amendment 00-01-58 for funds to complete a prior year project for additional supplies for run off containment in the Transportation Trust Fund. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve budget amendment to take funds from the Reserve for Contingency in the amount of \$38,000. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

6. County Road 64 - Bridge near Bombing Range

County Administrator Carl Cool presented a recommendation for an Interlocal agreement to maintain a short piece of road located in Polk County with the suggestion that Polk County repair the bridge on Highway 64. Discussion ensued regarding a change in boundaries. Ross Macbeth advised that County boundaries are set by statute and whatever is proposed would be between the two counties addressed to the Florida State Legislature. Commissioner Stokes addressed two issues, the time allotted for the project and the liability issue. Jim Stanfill, Executive Director of the Economic Development Commission, spoke regarding the impact of the bridge to economic development. The consensus of the Board was to direct the County Administrator to bring back information for the Board to consider.

J. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda as listed:

1. **Approval to pay all duly authorized bills**

Law Library	1,947.14
General	644,967.26
County Transportation Trust	84,357.93
E911 Operations	13,503.28
Intergovt Radio Communications	1,050.00
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	443,756.76
Affordable Housing Assistance	63,050.50
Special Law Enforcement	1,911.00
Solid Waste	29,077.82
Placid Utilities	8,881.75
Highway Park Utility	2,253.81
Risk Retention Fund	2,101.02
Employee Benefit	57,217.71
2. **Approval of minutes of the November 7, 2000 meetings**
3. **Accept into the record the October Monthly Report**
4. **Accept into the record the South Florida Water Management District No. 2000-83 -adoption of budget for fiscal year 2000-01. See SFWMD file for copy of Resolution**
5. **Approval of budget amendments 00-01-47 (Sebring Library Expansion, Allen Altwater Cultural Center Sign) 00-01-54 (Lights at ballfield at SFCC) 00-01-57(to complete security fence for Avon Park facility) 00-01- 59 (to cover unanticipated leave of Warehouse Manager due to back surgery).**
6. **Approval of resolutions & budget amendment's 99-00-445 (Florida arts license plates designated for the Highlands Art League, Inc., and 00-01-51 (Donation from Sebring Friends of the Library to be used to update video collection of Sebring Library) 00-01-55 (rollover of project from 99-00 to add crosswalks and pedestrian features to Sparrow Road and US 27). See Res. Book 14 Page 99.**
7. **Approval of appointment of Lucy Derkman to the Library Advisory Board. See SMB 38 Page 27 for copy of resume.**
8. **Approval of amendment to Commodity Contract #5781. See SMB 38 Page 28.**
9. **Approval of Satisfaction of Mortgage -Brown. See SMB 38 Page 29.**

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried

6. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

No participants.

7. COMMISSIONERS

A. Commissioner Bullard: Local review of Census Count letter

Commissioner Bullard presented a sample letter written to the Bureau of Census. He requested that the Board send the letter asking for a post census review. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to send the letter over the Chairman’s signature. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 30 for copy.

B. Commissioner Bullard: Report on Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference.

Refer to tape for detail. Commissioner Stokes, Flowers, and Maxcy shared that the report echoed their exact words.

C. Commissioner Flowers:

Commissioner Flowers reported that he made a motion in the Public Safety Commission meeting in Tallahassee that became one of the priorities to support legislation that will bring funding to the host counties for hurricane shelter retrofitting, when seeking grants without requiring a local match.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, DECEMBER 5, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, with the following members present

C Guy Maxcy	Mike Eastman
Edgar E Stokes	Carl Cool
Bob Bullard	J Ross Macbeth
Andrew B Jackson	Louise Graham
David W Flowers	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner David Flowers, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Sheriff:**

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending December 5, 2000. She also requested special prayers for the family of Sgt. Tom Sanders in his passing. He supervised the Community Maintenance Program.

- B. Clerk:**

C. Michael Eastman, Director of Accounting and Finance requested that the Board approve a short term advance in the amount of \$200,000 from the Infrastructure Fund to the Landfill Fund for a two-month period. The consensus of the Board was to place this item under the County Administrator as Item number 5.

- C. Upcoming County meetings:**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

4. **ACTION:**

Richard Conover presented questions regarding Consent agenda item number 9, Approval of CDBG Housing Grant. He stated that it has a November date and it is before the Board today and has to be sent out within 24 hours. The County Administrator reported that staff has to review and approve the document before it goes before the Board. Commissioner Jackson requested more information on the Grant, as he may have a conflict in the vote. The Chair suggested that this item be removed from the Consent agenda and placed under the County Administrator.

The County Administrator stated two corrections to the minutes. Commissioner Bullard advised that the Board has copies of the changes. Consent agenda item number 2 to read: Approval of minutes of board meetings as corrected. The County Administrator suggested an addition under him for the Local Agency Certification Resolution and Qualification Agreement with DOT.

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda as amended:

- A. Approval of a proclamation declaring the week of December 1, 2000 as Civil Air Patrol Week**

A request was presented from Captain George Navarina to approve a proclamation in recognition of Civil Air Patrol Week. The Proclamation was read into the record by the County Administrator, Carl Cool. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Proclamation declaring the week of December 1, 2000 as Civil Air Patrol Week. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 102.

B. Christy Reed & Ed Higby: Approval of a proclamation in support of “Operation Clean Sweep”

Mr. Ed Higby, Chairman of the Local Emergency Management Committee for the Heartland area, explained that his primary responsibility under the State of Florida, is to oversee those extremely hazardous chemicals that are used in commercial operations. In conjunction with that, the Department of Agriculture and Department of Environmental Protection, came up with a proposal for the Legislature and received an appropriation of \$300,000. These funds are designated for the District VII area. “Operation Clean Sweep” is designed to take pesticides that are not usable or prohibited by law for use and get rid of them.

The Proclamation was read into the record by the Christy Reed, Recycling Coordinator. She explained that the intent of the program is to acquaint commercial users to properly dispose of used and outdated pesticides to protect the health, safety, and quality of life. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Lisa Dunson, Citrus Growers Association, spoke in support of the Program. Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to adopt Proclamation in support of “Operation Clean Sweep.” Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 103.

C. Special Projects Director: Request to renew parking lot lease on Commerce Avenue

Bill Stephenson, Special Projects Director, presented a request to renew the parking lot lease for overflow parking on Commerce Avenue. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve request to renew lease located at the Northeast 1/4 of Lot 5, Block 83, Town of Sebring, 4th addition. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See lease file for copy.

D. Board Attorney

No report presented.

E. County Administrator:

1. Request to approve budget amendment 00-01-67 transferring funds from Infrastructure Reserve

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve budget amendment 00-01-67, to transfer funds from the Infrastructure Reserve to purchase a replacement vehicle for the Road and Bridge Department. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against the motion. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Request approval for Sheriff’s Department to apply to Heartland Workforce Investment Board First Jobs Adventure Program

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to authorize the Sheriff’s Department to apply for the Heartland Workforce Investment Board First Jobs Adventure Program in the amount \$71,970. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Gabriel Read spoke in favor of the program. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

3. Request for expenditure from the Special Law Enforcement (Forfeiture) Trust

Fund

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the expenditure of funds in the amount of \$24,190.00 from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund for the purchase of special equipment and supplies. Additionally, to waive the Board's purchasing policy and allow the Sheriff's Office to handle the purchasing in compliance with the Sheriff's Office purchasing policy, and facilitate the tracking and reporting of these expenditures. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 34.

4. Recommendation on Natural Resources Advisory Commission membership appointments

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, presented Natural Resources Advisory Commission's recommendation for appointments for four year terms commencing on January 1, 2001. The Chair asked Don Hansen for his input. Mr. Hansen reiterated his qualifications for consideration of appointment to the Commission. The Chair asked for other input from the public. Clayton Womer stated that the members should serve at the pleasure of the Board, and should accept the decisions of the Board. Gabriel Read spoke on behalf of Hank Kowalski and John Williams. He hoped that Mr. Williams will continue to give his input at the meetings, even though he is not a member, and that Mr. Kowalski moderate his language and continue to serve on the Commission. Hank Kowalski spoke regarding the make-up of the Commission. He stated that policy was not followed as each open seat should have two resumes presented to the Board of County Commission for consideration of appointment. In this case, Mr. Polatty and staff picked the people and presented them to NRAC for approval. This immediately disqualified Mr. Williams and Mr. Kowalski. Mr. Kowalski presented a brief summary of his qualifications and asked for reconsideration of appointment to the Commission. Mr. John Williams presented a five-minute statement into the record addressing concerns with staff and thanking the Board for his tenure on the Commission. See SMB 38 page 35 for copy.

Commissioner Flowers requested that the County Administrator address the procedure on Board appointments. Mr. Cool noted that a policy was adopted by the Board whereby two names would be presented by Department heads for appointments. On several occasions, only one name has been presented due to the lack of available people. In this case, the Board would waive that policy. In addressing the appointments today, there is a list of 13 names with resumes, which would essentially meet the requirement for seven appointments. Ross Macbeth stated that he has no problem with the recommendations. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of the recommendations. Commissioner Stokes stated that there was a consensus of some of the members that the Commission should be reorganized and place more qualified people in these positions. Seven members voted for this reorganization.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve NRAC's recommendation on the following commission membership for a four-year term commencing January 1, 2001.

Curtis DeYoung (Professional)
 Jeff Kennedy (Development)
 Sarah Childs (Agriculture)
 Hilary Swain (Environmental)
 Don Trippenese (Environmental)
 Mike Sawyer (Environmental)
 John Clark (At-large)

The Chair recommended that the Board consider alternate appointments. Mr. Polatty agreed to present this

suggestion to NRAC. Hank Kowalski spoke in opposition to the motion, and to staff’s recommendation. Commissioner Stokes noted for the record that some of the names were changed by the NRAC, and the appointments are their recommendations. Commissioner Flowers spoke in support of the motion and thanked Mr. Williams and Mr.Kowalski for their passion and support. Commissioner Jackson stated that he supported the motion, but was uncomfortable with procedure not being followed. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See NRAC file for copy of resumes. Commissioner Bullard commended John Williams and Hank Kowalski for their work on the Commission. He asked that Mr. Cool reevaluate the selection process and make sure that the Board is following procedures and research the need for alternates on the commission. The Chair issued a challenge to Mr. Kowalski to continue attending the meetings, and the future could hold a better membership ability for him.

Break 10:25 a.m. -10:50 a.m.

5. Approval of a short term loan from the Infrastructure to the Solid Waste Fund.

Carl Cool presented a request for a short term loan from the Infrastructure Fund to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund in the amount \$200,000.00, and interest. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes to approve the request for a short term loan from the Infrastructure Fund to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund in the amount \$200,000.00, and interest. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

6. Discussion on Consent agenda item number 9-CDBG Contract #01DB-79-07-38-01-H09 Housing Grant

Carl Cool explained the Housing Grant before the Board for approval. Richard Conover had requested discussion due to the lateness of the contract. Mr. Polatty advised that the Grant was sent up with changes that the Board Attorney had recommended. State Officials agreed and the changes were made and sent back for Board approval. The consensus of the Board was to place this item back on the Consent agenda.

7. Approval of Resolution and Qualification Agreement for Local Agency Program Certification-DOT

Carl Cool presented the request for approval of documents that allows DOT the option to delegate authority to qualified local agencies through Local Agency Certification. This procedure permits a local agency to retain more of the approval authority at the local level when developing federally assisted transportation projects.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve the Resolution and Qualification Agreement for Local Agency Program Certification with the Florida Department of Transportation. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 106 and FDOT file for copy.

F. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve the Consent agenda as listed.

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills and employee benefits

General	1,772,612.89
County Transportation Trust	62,635.58

E911 Operations	2,244.41
Conservation Trust	5,250.00
Intergovt Radio Communications	501.23
Local Govt Infra Surtax	30,402.63
Community Development Block	2,250.00
Affordable Housing Assistance	41,658.86
Solid Waste	126,328.96
Placid Utilities	11,795.67
Highway Park Utility	637.75
Risk Retention Fund	48.00
Employee Benefit	179,315.13
Highlands Hosp Pass Thru	87,165.00
2. Approval of minutes of board meetings of November 14, 2000, November 21, 2000 and November 28, 2000 with corrections as stated.	
3. Accept into the record the South Florida Water Management District's five-year Capital Improvements Plan and Fiscal Year 1999-2000 Fiscal Report. See file for copy.	
4. Approval of resolutions and budget amendments 00-01-64 (two new positions for the Heartland Library Cooperative) 00-01-66 (replacement vehicle). See Res. Book 14 Page 104.	
5. Request to approve budget amendment 99-00-446 to transfer funds from health insurance unemployment compensation to provide funds to pay for a previous OPS employee. See SMB 38 Page 35 A.	
6. Request to waive the Board policy that requires two names to be submitted and reappoint Patrick A. "Sam" White to the Health Facilities Authority. See SMB 38 Page 36.	
7. Request to approve capital purchase of computer equipment from the 2000/2001 Emergency Management Base Grant. See SMB 38 Page 37.	
8. Request to approve Melaleuca Contract with Southwest Florida Water Management District. See SMB 38 Page 38.	
9. Request to approve CDBG Contract #01DB-79-07-38-01-H09 Housing Grant. See SMB 38 Page 39.	

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

6. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard - Southwest Florida Water Management District - Water Shortage (Drought Contingency) Management Action List

Commissioner Bullard stated that we are on the brink of a *water shortage crisis* and we need to be more proactive to assist the Water Management District to conserve water. He asked that the Board direct staff to expedite an investigation of the recommended action alternatives that staff can act upon quickly and come back to the Board for implementation. He recommended that the County Administrator bring some of the things back by next meeting for action and work on the enforcement in the interim. The Public Information Officer can begin working on the announcements. Commissioner Stokes agreed that we are in a water crisis

already. The Board members gave a consensus on the recommendation. See SMB 38 Page 40 for copy of information.

Commissioner Flowers - update on Christmas Parades

Commissioner Maxcy - The Chair appointed Commissioner Jackson as liaison to the SWFWMD Board, as a replacement for former Commissioner James Gose. Joan McClelland, representing the District, thanked the Chair.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Chairperson

Attest:

Clerk

WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD, DECEMBER 12, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, with the following members present:

C Guy Maxcy	Mike Eastman
Edgar E Stokes	Carl Cool
Bob Bullard	J Ross Macbeth
Andrew B Jackson	Louise Graham
David W Flowers	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by County Administrator, Carl Cool, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance by Hank Kowalski.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Sheriff:

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending December 12, 2000.

B. Clerk:

No report presented.

C. Upcoming County meetings:

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public. Mr. Cool reported that Michelle Drake, Administrative Aide, was responsible for providing county employees with a list of Childrens names that needed Christmas toys. A number of county employees are participating in the project.

4. **Workshop to consider adoption of a noise ordinance**

County Administrator Carl Cool presented a basic overview of sound levels and human response to noise. He explained that sound is measured in something called a decibel. A decibel is a scientific term that describes a certain level of energy. Mr. Cool demonstrated a decibel meter and how it measures sound.

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, presented a summary listing of noise ordinances from 12 different counties to be considered for adoption by the Board. He reviewed the Brevard County ordinance definitions and presented highlights of the other county ordinances. Carl Cool presented into the record 156 petitions from the Highlands County Homeowners Association in support of a noise ordinance. Ross Macbeth, Board Attorney, was not in favor of using out of county ordinances. He recommended that we first define what the problem is in Highlands County and pattern the ordinance to suit the problem, rather than covering the universe, when the problem is not that broad. He stated that enforcement is also an issue, as we do not have a Code Enforcement Board. Discussion followed with

comments from the following:

Clifford Mitchell of Tomoka Heights requested that an ordinance be adopted that will have some strength in it. Bill Dauber of Spring Lake Homeowners Association, assured commissioners that noise from the Sebring Airport and the Sebring Raceway is not the problem. The concerns they have center on airboats running in the middle of the night, noisy dogs, motorcycles and loud music. Richard Henline, Avon Park Homeowners Association, spoke in favor of a workable, enforceable ordinance that will address loud parties specifically around Lake Olivia in Avon Park. Frank McCormick of Lake Placid was in favor of an ordinance that will address barking dogs.

Commissioner Bullard stated concerns on passing a new law with restrictions set by an ordinance that may not be enforceable. Commissioner Jackson also stated concerns that we will not be able to enforce the ordinance. Commissioner Stokes requested information from other counties on how these ordinances are being enforced. Commissioner Flowers recommended that we get the Code Enforcement Board back on track. This will take the offenses out of the criminal arena, which was a concern that Assistant State Attorney Pete Estrada passed on to Ross Macbeth. Jim Polatty opposed going to a code enforcement board, because of the possibility that politics would enter into decisions. Chairperson Maxcy liked the Lake County ordinance. He suggested a minimal ordinance to begin, with no decibel readings and enforcement by the Sheriff's Office. Lt. Susan Benton, Sheriff's Department, suggested a research from other counties for enforcement results. Commissioner Bullard stated that he tends to lean toward the Indian River County ordinance with the idea of a civil citation. The consensus of the Board was to put the charge to Jim Polatty, Carl Cool, and Ross Macbeth to draft an ordinance, beginning with a minimum fine of \$25.00 and a tracking of enforcement from other counties. Carl Cool advised that the City of Avon Park has an ordinance that limits the number of dogs that a person may keep. Commissioner Bullard asked that we not consider this option.

Recess 10:35 - 10:45 a.m.

5. Clell Ford, Lakes Manager: Lake Jackson stormwater survey results

Clell Ford, Lakes Manager, provided an overview of the preliminary results from the Lake Jackson Stormwater survey. The Board of County Commissioners, in cooperation with the Peace River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the City of Sebring, cooperatively funded this survey of stormwater contamination to Lake Jackson since 1999.

The survey included storm water sampling from Park Street, Center Street at the City Pier Beach outfall, Pine Street, Eucalyptus Street, and Southeast Lakeview Drive, at the Crescent Beach outfall, on the east side of the lake. The western sample sites were Southwest Lakeview Drive at Howey Road, St. Agnes, Pine'n Lakes subdivision and the Lake Sebring Canal. Water was also sampled at the Sebring Municipal Golf Course.

Clell advised commissioners that the study will take sediment samples this week, will do a storm water inventory and at least one more round of storm water sampling before the study is done. For now, the

study has found high levels of fecal bacteria identified with both animal and human waste. One type of bacteria, called enterococci is identified with human waste. Researchers could also use caffeine as an indicator of human waste, but these tests cost \$90 to \$150 per sample and enterococci costs only \$10 per sample. Ford said the bacteria could be coming from an overflow from sewer systems or illegal dumping, but he leaned more toward the dumping possibility, because he didn't see continuous seepage on the east side of the lake. In addition to enterococci bacteria, the storm water also contained aluminum, ammonia, copper, nitrates, phosphorus, zinc, lead, iron and fecal coliform.

Clell stated that nutrients during June tested high at Park Street. He said that odor coming from that area probably is due to the city of Sebring's lift station. Contamination levels generally are higher on the east side of the lake than on the west side. Commissioner Bullard questioned if that was because of fertilizing lawns around the lake. Clell said that was a possibility, plus a lot of roadway runoff. He could not be sure. He added that it's also possible that some are emptying effluent tanks from their recreational vehicles into storm drains. Keith Kolasa, SWFWMD, discussed ways of treating the storm water. There are two primary methods of treating storm water. The in-line method discharges treated water back into the lake and the off-line utilizes a settling pond before discharge. He is hoping that in a year we will have options for discussion with the City of Sebring and SWFWMD. The completion date for the entire project is March 2002.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Barbara Bazley, President of the Highlands County Lakes Association, thanked the support team. Councilwoman Margie Rhoades presented suggestion to have a joint workshop with the City of Sebring for discussion.

The Chairperson closed the workshop at 11:45 a.m.

6. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to set the Action agenda as listed. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Approval to pay all duly authorized employee benefits December 12, 2000

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve payment of duly authorized employee benefits in the amount of \$ 92,985.70. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

4. Citizens not on Agenda

Byron G. Ellis brought to the attention of the Commission, a proposed violation by the County in demolishing registered historic monuments or landmarks. He stated that researched facts have been presented by concerned citizens to the City of Sebring that have been ignored on numerous occasions. Because the expressway is a joint project by the City and the County, he is requesting the County readdress the preservation of our history and the historic sites. The oversight should be corrected as soon as possible. He has submitted a plan to the City of Sebring for a possible museum to record the

historic sites and significance of the structures that were destroyed countywide. The plan may be obtained from him or Horace Williams office products in Sebring. He requested that the Board employee his services to research possible solutions and alternatives with the City and County officials. Chairperson Maxcy advised Mr. Ellis that the Board will take his proposal under advisement and asked that he meet with the County Administrator and the County Attorney if needed, to see if we are in violation. Mr. Cool stated that he will have a report to the Board next Tuesday, along with a copy of the proposal.

5. Commissioners

- Commissioner Stokes requested information on the Heritage Tree Ordinance. Ross Macbeth reported that it will be scheduled in January.
- Commissioner Jackson presented questions regarding the Policy on Board Appointments. The chair asked that Mr. Jackson discuss the issue with the County Administrator, and if any changes are needed the issue will be placed on the agenda.
- County Administrator Carl Cool presented a report on water resources. Commissioner Bullard spoke in favor of issuing civil citations for enforcement of water restrictions. The consensus of the Board was to request the Board Attorney bring back a draft ordinance.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD, DECEMBER 19, 2000

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. in the Board of County Commission Chambers at 600 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, with the following members present:

C Guy Maxcy	Mike Eastman
Edgar E Stokes	Carl Cool
Bob Bullard	J Ross Macbeth
Andrew B Jackson	Louise Graham
David W Flowers	

2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with a prayer by Commissioner Flowers, followed with the Pledge of Allegiance by Jim Polatty, Development Services Director.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Sheriff:

Lt. Susan Benton presented the daily jail log of inmate count for the period ending December 19, 2000.

B. Clerk:

No report presented.

C. Upcoming County meetings:

County Administrator Carl Cool presented the upcoming meetings into the record. Additional meetings were announced for the benefit of the public.

D. Commissioner Bullard - Appointment to the Intergovernmental Coordinating Council

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to appoint Commissioner Bullard to the Intergovernmental Coordinating Council. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. The motion carried.

E. Arrival of Santa Claus - Richard Conover presented gifts.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

A. Approval of vacation of plat - Bonnet Lake Village

Petition and Proof of Publication entered into the record by Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer. See SMB 38 Page 43. Staff recommended vacation of the Plat. No letters were received in objection from the Utility Companies. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Commissioner Jackson requested that the petitioner be clearly identified in the packet by what authority he is requesting the petition. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution vacating a portion of Bonnet lake Village Plat Book 10, Page 8, Block 75 through 85 inclusive, SE 8th Terrace, SE 9th Terrace, SE 10th Terrace. SE 11th Terrace SE 20th Court, SE 21st Court, NE 8th Terrace, NE 9th Terrace, NE 10th Terrace, NE 11th Terrace, NE 12th Terrace, that portion of Rose Avenue lying north of the northeasterly extension of the southeasterly line of Block 79. That portion of Block 85 to the northwest corner of Block 75 and west of a line connecting the southeast corner of Block 81 to the northeast corner of Block 75 and west of a line connecting the southeast corner of Block 81 to

the northeast corner of Block 80, Bonnet Lake Village. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Maxcy, who abstained and entered into the record a memorandum of voting conflict, as the petitioner is a client of his corporation. See SMB 38 Page 44. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 108.

B. Approval of vacation of easement - Placid Lakes

Petition and Proof of Publication entered into the record by Ramon Gavarrete, County Engineer. See SMB 38 Page 45. Rick Whidden represented the petitioners, Daniel L. and Patricia Brewster. Letters of "no objection" were received from all the Utility Companies and other County Departments. Staff recommended approval of the petition. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Motion by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to adopt Resolution to vacate the utility easement as follows:

An easement being 20.0 feet in width lying between Lots 38 and 39 Block 251 of Placid Lakes, Section 20, a subdivision as recorded in Plat Book 9 on Page 31, of the Public Records, lying 10.00 feet left and right of the following described center line; Commence at the most Southerly corner of Lot 39, thence North 38 47' 01" East and along a line common to Lots 38 and 39 a distance of 10.00 feet for Point of Beginning. Thence continue North 38 47' 01" East a distance of 105.00 feet to end of description. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 109.

C. Proposed zoning changes and small-scale plan amendments

Petitions and Proof of Publications entered into the record by Jim Polatty, Development Services Director. See Proof of Pub Ord. Book 2 Page 116.

HEARING # CPA - 00-147SS - CARL G. CANEVARI

Lots 2, 3, 31, 32, and 33, Block 1, Highlands Park Estates Section D, as recorded in P.B. 4, Pg. 86 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Requesting a small-scale plan amendment from (Medium Density Residential) to (Commercial).

HEARING # 1571 - CARL G. CANEVARI

Lots 2 and 3, Block 1, Highlands Park Estates Section D, as recorded in P.B. 4, Pg. 86 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Requesting a zoning change from B-2 (Limited Business district) to B-3 (Business district). Applicant desires to add additional office, parking, and retention area. The Local Planning Agency and the Planning and Zoning Commission made a motion to recommend approval and adopt by Ordinance the small-scale FLUM amendment CPA-00-147SS, from Medium Density Residential to Commercial for lots 2, 3 & 31-33; and, by Resolution the rezone P&Z #1571, from B-2: Limited Business district to B-3, Business district for lots 2 & 3, to be effective at the time the FLUM amendment is approved by DCA, after entering into the record the mandatory findings as it appears in the staff report, and including the special condition regarding the egress and ingress.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, in accordance with the Local Planning Agency to adopt ordinance and approve Zoning, and adopt Resolution, contingent upon approval of CPA - 00-147SS from DCA and including the mandatory findings in the staff report. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 110.

HEARING # CPA - 00-148SS - JULIAN G. SAPP - C/O RICK WHIDDEN

Lots 14, 15, 16, and the East 5 feet Lot 17, Block 59, Lake Groves Subdivision, as recorded in P.B. 1, Pg. 31 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.
Requesting a small-scale plan amendment from (Agriculture) to (Commercial).

HEARING # 1572 - JULIAN G. SAPP - C/O RICK WHIDDEN

Lots 14, 15, 16, and the East 5 feet Lot 17, Block 59, Lake Groves Subdivision, as recorded in P.B. 1, Pg. 31 of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.
Requesting a zoning change from AU (Agricultural) to B-4 (Business district). Applicant desires to increase existing use of the property for cleaning, sorting, and packing of caladiums. There were no letters received and no one spoke for or against the requests. Mr. Whidden stated that the applicant will change his zoning request to B-4 CU. The use being crating, packing and shipping of agricultural products. The rezoning to be effective at the time the Future Land Use Map Amendment is approved by DCA. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the request. The County Planning Department recommended against approval. The proposal would introduce commercial west of the city limits established by the Town. Development Services Director, Jim Polatty, stated that through a visioning process the Town Council established Tangerine Drive as the desired limit of commercial expansion. A fax was received from the Town Planner stating concerns from staff's prospective. Town Council will hear the request at their January 8, 2001 meeting. Commissioners Flowers and Bullard spoke in favor of postponing the hearing for one month due to the visioning in Lake Placid. Rick Whidden, representing the petitioner, explained that the CU zoning will not change anything. It only allows the petitioner to use the property as it is being used now. He agreed that the delay could be a hindrance, but another month would not be a major problem. Commissioner Stokes wondered if the delay could hinder the harvesting efforts.

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to table until January 23, 2001, with the understanding that there is no advertising cost to the applicant. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. Staff to coordinate with the Town of Lake Placid on action took by the Board of County Commissioners.

D. First Public Hearing regarding proposed changes to Chapter 12 (Zoning Code)

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, presented the Proof of Publication into the record. See Proof of Pub. Ord Book 2 Page 117. Captions of the ordinance read into the record. This is the first public hearing to consider changes to Chapter 12. It was heard by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Local Planning Agency on December 4, 2000. They recommended to the Board of County Commissioners approval including the changes that were discussed. Mr. Polatty briefly discussed the proposed changes to the ordinance. Commissioner Bullard commended staff on the corrected document and reviewed other changes:

- Page 12 - Permitted principal uses on quasi-public Lands - expand uses and make it consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
- Page 13 - Item (h) - add and a minimum of 80 feet of road frontage
- Page 13 - Item (l) - delete
- Page 13 - Items (m) - expand to 100 feet
- Page 13 - Item (n) - add language (mobile home)
- Page 13 - Item (o) - make less restrictive
- Page 19 - Section 34 Item (5) - add language: Government operated public safety towers should be exempt from the requirements of this ordinance.

- Request of the Development Services Director for realignment of correspondence presented to the Commission.

Mr. Cool spoke to the Commission regarding Section 31. Zoning Amendment - Keeping and maintaining animals. He shared that a gentleman is keeping an alligator in a commercial zone. He will not be able to apply for a special exception. The alligator exceeds the 36-inch limit by nine feet. It will be unlawful to keep this animal.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. Mr. Jim Malless, representing Crown Castle Towers, presented comments regarding modification to the tower section of the proposed ordinance. Ross Macbeth shared that the intent of the language was that a modification could be done as long as they did not change or violate the conditions of the special exceptions. It will allow the addition of antennas to an existing permitted tower without leaving the neighborhood with a radical change. Commissioner Bullard recommended that staff, industry, and the attorney, sit down and come up with a language that will solve the problem but give adequate protection and encourage co-location. Mike Howe, attorney for America Towers, agreed with the modification and commented on the public safety towers. Ray Meyers spoke in favor of the collocation of towers and antennas to eliminate as many as possible. Hank Kowalski had concerns regarding keeping certain animals and the effect it will have on Wrede's Wildlife. He also agreed with the collocation and expressed health concerns. He asked that the Property Appraiser attend the Board meeting and present ideas on taxing of towers. Mr. Cool advised that Wrede's Wildlife will be covered by the special exception. See Zoning file for copy of information.

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to hold the second public hearing at 9:00 a.m. on January 2, 2001. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

E. Proposed adoption of the Large-Scale plan amendments
CPA -00-138LS - LAKE PLACID GROVES, LC/LAKE FRANCIS LANDING

Amending the FLUM for a 325 acre (536 units) golf course community from Agriculture to Low Density Residential.

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, presented the Proof of Publication and Petitions into the record. See Proof of Pub Ord Book 2 Page 119. He also reviewed the deleted and revised conditions recommended by staff. The Local Planning Agency made a motion to recommend adoption by Ordinance of the Large-Scale plan amendment CPA-00-138LS changing the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) from "Agriculture" designation to "Low Density Residential" designation and amending FLU 1.11 by adding subparagraph E, after entering into the record the mandatory findings. Mr. Polatty advised that the zoning will come before the Board in February.

There were four letters received against, one with concerns, and a petition with 41 names against the request. There were no letters received for the request. Dale Polston, representing the petitioner, presented a slide presentation explaining the development. The Chair opened the floor to the public. Ray Meyers, Gabriel Read, Hank Kowalski and Ralph Miner stated concerns. Richard Henline, representing the Highlands County Lakes Association, Vaughn Whitesides, representing the Audubon Society, Diann Kerrick, President of the Homeowners Association, stated concerns on the location of the sewage treatment plant, odor from the plant, the possibility that multifamily homes will be built, density, traffic, runoff from the golf course, water quality, need for additional access to US 27, heavy impact on traffic, wetlands, dumping on vacant property, plenty of vacant lots in existing subdivisions, and the lakes being

polluted.

Commission discussion

Commissioner Flowers discussed the possibility of building a new road connecting the subdivision with US. 27, which could take some traffic pressure off of Cloverleaf and Lake June roads. Carl Cool stated that the new road could not go directly east from Cloverleaf because there is an existing subdivision along U.S. 27. Proceeding further north would bring the new road out at a curve. Also, there are wetlands near the development’s proposed sewage treatment plant that must be avoided. However Mr. Cool thought the project could be accomplished. The County Administrator was directed to check out proposed routes and get cost estimates.

Commissioner Stokes questioned the Development Director on exactly what we are voting on today. Jim Polatty shared that the Board is voting on the Comp. Plan amendment. The Development Order and the zoning will be heard in February. Commissioner Jackson advised that the issue today is the land use, and if it’s a proper and lawful use of the land, we have to approve it.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve adoption by Ordinance of the Large-Scale Plan Amendment CPA-00-138LS changing the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) from “Agriculture” designation to “Low Density Residential” designation and amending FLU 1.11 by adding subparagraph E, after entering into the record the mandatory findings. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

CPA - 00-135LS - LAKE PLACID HOLDING COMPANY

Amending the FLUM to correct an error in land use designation of 19.87 acres in Conservation/Management Lands (which were never in public ownership) to Agriculture. The Local Planning Agency made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners approval of CPA - 00-135LS as presented. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, in accordance with the Local Planning Agency, to approve and adopt by Ordinance CPA - 00-135LS as presented. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

CPA - 00-133LS - COUNTY INITIATED LAND USE CHANGE

Consistency FLUM Amendments: 1.87 acres of High Density Residential to Medium Density Residential; 50.46 acres of Medium Density Residential to Agriculture; and, 109.05 acres of Low Density Residential to Agriculture for a total of 121.38 acres.

The Local Planning Agency made a motion to recommend approval of CPA -00-133LS, County Initiated Land Use change to the Board of County Commissioners and change acreage and the map on Sites 18 and 19. (Staff Note: The acreage for site 19 should be changed from 12.02 acres to 4.48 acres and exclude Lot 1 on Site 19.)

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, in accordance with the Local Planning Agency to approve and adopt by Ordinance CPA - 00-133LS, *excluding Lot 1 on site 19*. The Chair opened the floor to the public. No one spoke for or against. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

5. ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to set the Action agenda as listed with the addition of the following:

- Department of Transportation - draft tentative work program FY 2001/02 - 2005/06
- Concert Band request under the Asst. County Administrator as Item number F-3.
- Delete Consent agenda Item number 4.
- Remove Consent agenda Item number 15 and place under the County Administrator as Item H- 4.

Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

DOT presentation- draft tentative work program FY 2001/02 - 2005/06 David Twiddy

Secretary Twiddy presented comments on the Five Year Work Program. He shared that asphalt prices rose 29% in the last year. These prices coupled with the increases in fuel costs forced the district to spread four years of work over five years. Carl Cool stated that cost increases in asphalt and fuel meant the county did not gain any major projects in the state plan. Debbie Hunt, FDOT, presented a highlight of the projects. See DOT file for copy. Commissioner Bullard spoke regarding the impact of the proposed bullet train on road work, especially in rural areas. Sec. Twiddy stated that nothing specific was known. They are waiting to see the organizational structure and the cost estimates. Commissioner Bullard stated interest in funding to widen State Road 70, from coast to coast. Debbie Hunt shared that there is no money in the five-year work plan. They will have to do a study to put some of the pieces in place. Commissioner Stokes spoke in favor of the U.S. 98 project. The Chair opened the Chair to the public. Richard Conover spoke regarding the incorrect address listing in the public hearing. Sec. Twiddy stated that this error will be corrected.

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the request to accept the Draft Tentative Work Program. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

A. Special Projects Director: Request approval to accept donated lot

Bill Stephenson, Special Project Director, presented a request for the Board to accept a donated lot from Patricia W. Cox, trustee for property located at 6404 Cambridge Drive Carva Hills Subdivision, Lot 9 Block 219, Sebring, Florida. Commissioner Bullard spoke in opposition to the request. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to decline the offer for the donated lot as the Board finds no valid public need for the property. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 46.

Break 1:00 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.

B. County Engineer: Request approval of purchase agreements for the Powerline Road project

Petition and Proof of Publication entered into the record. See SMB 38 Page 47. County Engineer Ramon Gavarrete presented request to approve purchase agreements for parcels for the Powerline Road project. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, to approve the purchase agreements for parcels 2, 3, 5, and 16, totaling \$36,876.00. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Human Resources Director: Request approval of Housing Program CDBG temporary position

Human Resources Director Fred Carino presented a request for the Board to authorize one new

temporary position for the Housing office as a CDBG support person. Mr. Carino shared that CDBG grant funds have been received for FY 2000/2001 and FY 2001/2002. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve the temporary grant-funded position in order to fully utilize the new grant funds. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 48.

D. Development Services Director:

1. Request to adopt a resolution revising the Planning and Zoning fee schedule

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to adopt Resolution revising the Planning and Zoning fee schedule. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Res. Book 14 Page 111.

2. Request to approve appointment to the Central Sewer Study Committee

Jim Polatty, Development Services Director, presented the October 22, 1999-memo to BOCC that suggested 13 members comprise the Committee. Since then, staff has revised the recommendation to include representatives from septic tank service businesses. The people listed have volunteered to sit on the committee. This revised composition of the committee would consist of a total of 19 members with two alternates. See SMB 38 Page 49.

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to approve the revised composition of the Central Sewer Study Committee for categories A, C, D, G, H, and I, which will give the committee 15 members (plus one alternate.) Fill remaining position under B, E, and F at a later date.

<p>A. Three (3) representatives from the Lakes Association, and one (1) alternate:</p>	<p><u>Barbara Bazley</u> <u>Gordon Davis</u> <u>Mary Carter</u> <u>Arlene Rhodes</u> (alt)</p>
<p>B. Three (3) representatives from the Home Owners Associations (HOA)/Property Owners Association (POA), and one (1) alternate. Staff suggests that representatives come from areas that contain some lake-front.</p>	<p><u>Ralph Colon</u> 2 members and 1 alternate to be appointed later.</p>
<p>C. One (1) representative from the Highlands Soil and Water Conservation District.</p>	<p><u>Cliff Rhoades</u></p>
<p>D. Four (4) representatives from Two (2) representative Utility Providers, which could include either the Sebring Airport Authority, or other private sector representatives. <u>Include representatives from the municipalities for Intergovernmental Coordination.</u></p>	<p><u>Howard Short</u> <u>Marty Roepstorff</u> <u>(Sebring)</u> <u>Rainey Prevatt (Avon Park)</u> <u>Shannon Dunn (Lake Placid)</u></p>

E. One (1) water quality specialist or water system technical specialist, and one (1) alternate;	No Volunteers at present
F. One (1) Economic Development/Chamber of Commerce representative.	No Volunteers at present
G. One (1) Environmental representative	<u>Paul Ebersbach</u>
<u>H. Two (2) representatives from Septic Tank Service businesses.</u>	<u>Paul Poore</u> <u>Roy Copeland, Sr.</u>
<u>I. H. One (1) Three (3) General at Large representatives.</u>	<u>Fred Trippensee</u> <u>Curtis DeYoung</u> <u>John D'Amada</u>

Commissioner Jackson recommended that these appointments be announced at least one month in advance. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See Central Sewer file for copy of Resumes.

E. General Services Director: Request to approve County-Com phone switch upgrade and budget amendment

General Services Director Jed Secory presented a request for approval of budget amendment 00-01-84 from the Infrastructure Funds to cover the additional expense in the amount of \$10,000, and a telecommunication upgrade for the exchange of telephone switches, a HiCom 150 located at the new EOC at George Boulevard for a HiCom model 30. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the request as stated. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 50 for copy.

F. Assistant County Administrator:

1. Approval of additional funds for the spay/neuter program

Commissioner Bullard spoke on behalf of the spay/neuter program. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard, to approve the request of Tom Portz, Assistant County Administrator, to approve an additional \$15,000.00 and a budget amendment to the spay and neuter program from the Contingency Fund, contingent upon the local vets approval. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 51 for copy.

2. Presentation of additional communications requests and information

A. Procurement of computer play backs for Sebring and Avon Park Police Departments

Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve request to purchase computer play backs for the Sebring and Avon Park Police Departments. This item will allow play back of the archived 911 tapes and are necessary for court activities. These purchases will be made from the 911 budget and does not affect the General fund. The units cost approximately \$8,500.00 each and will be a sole source purchase as they use proprietary software. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 52 for copy.

B. Purchase of a router and upgrade equipment for Lake Placid and Avon Park and the Sheriff's substation in Lake Placid

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve purchase of a router and upgrade equipment for Avon Park and Lake Placid and Sheriff's Substation in Lake Placid to allow linkage of data and radio network. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

C. PCCI Phase II plan upgrade

Tom Portz presented an update on the Intertel Strategic Emergency Telecommunications Plan Phase II upgrade. Col. Jones, representing the Sheriff's Department, explained the need for the plan upgrade and the type of system offered that will provide a countywide communication and interagency government communication with the municipalities. Initially it would be a county system and then the cities would opt in time to come into the program. The county would have the Infrastructure and the cities would have to purchase their console and their in user equipment to hook into the system. There would be one system countywide. Col. Jones recommended that we move forward on this project. The Chair asked that staff get with Col. Jones and the Communication Committee and bring back recommendation at the next regular meeting. See Communications file for copy.

D. Concert Band

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to allow the Concert Band to play on the Courthouse Lawn on January 14, 2001 with a free will offering to be accepted. Commissioner Bullard asked that Mike Eastman contact the Clerk for his input. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

G. Board Attorney

No report presented.

H. County Administrator:

County Administrator Carl Cool reported that he has received a draft copy of the new water restriction ordinance for review. The ordinance will be distributed and set for public hearing on January 9, 2001.

1. Request approval of budget amendment 00-01-75 to transfer funds from Reserve for Contingency.

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve budget amendment 00-01-75 to appropriate matching funds for the SHOCAP Grant and make revisions to the appropriation for the LLEB Grant. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

2. Update to the Board on meeting with Mr. Byron G. Ellis

Mr. Cool reported to the Commission that he has met with Mr. Byron G. Ellis about his concerns and interest in historic preservation. The Ellis Report was not available for him to read. After the second meeting with Mr. Ellis, he informed the County Administrator that he was no longer interested in historic preservation. The Chair opened the floor to Mr. Ellis for comments. He spoke to the Commission and requested that the County create a Director's position and employ his services for a period of six months to a year so that he may perform an in-depth search as to the remedy of the historic monuments caused by construction of the expressway. Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Bullard to deny the request. Ross Macbeth advised that the request is inconsistent with the Boards Personnel Manual and its hiring practice. Upon roll call all commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 52.

3. Request to appoint members to the Kissimmee River Recreation

Accessibility Committee

County Administrator Carl Cool presented resumes for appointments to the Kissimmee River Recreation Accessibility Committee. Commissioner Stokes has requested that the Board become involved in the study of the boat ramp situation on the Kissimmee River as the plans are to replace only one. Commissioner Bullard spoke on behalf of Robert Puzey. Motion by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Flowers, to appoint all ten applicants to the Kissimmee River Recreation Accessibility Committee. The County Administrator was directed to notify the appointees. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 53 for copy of resumes.

4. Approval of Conceptual Agreement with Florida Communities Trust for the Winding Waters Acquisition Project

The County Administrator discussed the agreement that allows the Board to designate the Nature Conservancy to be the ambassador in dealing with the landowners and meeting with Florida Communities Trust. This gives them the official designation but they do not have the authority to go and bind the Board to a contract for a deal to buy land. Any proposal that they make will have to come back before the Board and the Commission will make the decision on whether they agree with it. Commissioner Jackson asked the Board Attorney to present comments regarding the delegation of authority on two items of the contract. He stated that he is not prepared to move forward when we don't have a management plan. Ross Macbeth shared that the agreement is contingent on many contingencies, while it seems firm in some aspects, in essence it is not. The reason for that is that we do not have grant monies. What it does say is that there is a plan out there to negotiate for the property. It has to be voluntary and it has to be within the appraisals. The Board intends to follow the same procedure as with the Sun'n Lake Preserve. The negotiations will be done by Nature Conservancy staff with the property owner. If there is an agreement in principal on what the deal will be, it comes back to the Department of Community Affairs, which still has to approve the transaction itself, all the terms and then to the Board, which has to approve all those terms. The negotiations face to face occur with the property owner will be done by Nature Conservancy. Then they bring back an offer by the property owner for the County and for the Department of Community Affairs to consider. If funds are not committed, then there is no transaction. The Management Plan will not begin until there is a contract with the property owner to buy the property. In essence, what they expect is that within the next thirty to sixty days, Nature Conservancy will be talking to the property owners. Appraisals have been completed on this parcel. Commissioner Jackson questioned why we would be giving the authority to Nature Conservancy to sign the contract for purchase. Ross Macbeth stated that it is their form contract, but the transaction has not been closed in that manner in the past. Commissioner Jackson stated that he cannot support the contract without modifications. He feels that we need the plan completed before we move forward. Carl Cool shared that the Nature Conservancy is familiar with all the procedures. Otherwise, the Board could do the negotiating.

Motion by Commissioner Stokes, seconded by Commissioner Flowers to approve the Conceptual Agreement with Florida Communities Trust for the Winding Waters Acquisition Project. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye, except Commissioner Jackson, who voted nay. Motion carried. See SMB 38 Page 59.

I. Consent agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Flowers, seconded by Commissioner Stokes, to approve the Consent agenda less Item 4 and Item 15. Upon roll call, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

1. Approval to pay all duly authorized bills

Law Library	1,247.14
General	773,773.90
County Transportation Trust	170,094.78
E911 Operations	2,793.99
Conservation Trust	7,750.00
Legal Aid	2,791.67
Local Govt Infra Surtax	476,366.59
Affordable Housing Assistance	73,227.00
Solid Waste	108,874.12
Placid Utilities	5,527.90
Highway Park Utility	1,844.16
Risk Retention Fund	213,914.11
Employee Benefit	94,357.16
2. Approval of minutes of December 5, 2000
3. Accept into record - November Monthly Report
4. ~~Approval of Change Order #3 CDBG Grant #00DB6B-07-38-01-E04.~~ See SMB 38 Page 54.
5. Approval of subordination agreement - Nastri. See SMB 38 Page 55.
6. Approval of satisfaction of mortgage - Avalos. See SMB 38 Page 56.
7. Approval of budget amendments 00-01-78 (CDBG Home Depot project) 00-01-82(Purchase of right of way for Scenic Highway and Ben Eastman Road) and 00-01-85 (Purchase of a one ton 4x4 cab and chassis pick up truck for County Transportation Trust). See SMB 38 Page 57.
8. Approval of resolutions and budget amendment 00-01-69 to transfer unexpended funds from the 1999/2000 budget to current years budget to allow the Historical Preservation Commission to move forward with their display project. See Res. Book 14 Page 112.
9. Approval of a resolution to authorize library loans to residential care facilities within Highlands County. See Res. Book 14 Page 113.
10. Approval of satisfaction of mortgage - McMinn. See SMB 38 Page 57.
11. Approval of Heartland Library Board reappointments (Bob Bullard, Jeanne Renton, and Perry Newport). See SMB 38 Page 58.
12. Approval of Engineer's estimate of improvements, improvement agreement and performance bond for development within adjacent municipality and resolution to accept a warranty deed to real property necessary for roadway construction along Youth Care Lane - Park Crest Ltd. See Youth Care Lane file. See Res. Book 14 Page 114.
13. Approval of contract with SWFWMD for testing lakes as a part of Central Sewer Study. See SMB 38 Page 59.
14. Approval of purchase of one county-owned lot in Sun 'n Lakes Preserve for the full purchase price for Lot 7, Block 468, Unit 22, Sun'n Lake Estates of Sebring. See SMB 38 Page 60.
15. ~~Approval of Conceptual Agreement with Florida Communities Trust for the Winding Waters Acquisition Project.~~
16. Approval of Amendment #7 of the Employee Health Plan to reflect the

appropriate company name. See Employee Benefit file for copy.

17. Approval of reappointment of Kevin Roberts to the Polk County Opportunity Council, Inc. See SMB 38 Page 61.

6. CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA:

7. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Bullard commended the Y2K committee for their work with the project.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Chairperson

Attest: _____
Clerk
