

OCTOBER 21, 2009

The Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida, met in JOINT SESSION with the Council of Governments at Pirate City, 1701 27th Street East, Bradenton, Florida, at 4:07 p.m.

Present were Commissioners:

Carol Whitmore, First Vice-Chairman
Donna Hayes, Second Vice-Chairman
Lawrence E. Bustle, Jr., Third Vice-Chairman
John R. Chappie
Ron Getman
Joe McClash (entered during meeting)

Absent was:

Gwendolyn Y. Brown, Chairman (previous engagement)

Also present were:

Ed Hunzeker, County Administrator
Jim Minix, Chief Deputy County Attorney
Maggie Hamilton, Deputy Clerk,
representing R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

AGENDA

Agenda of October 21, 2009.

[BC20091021DOC001](#)

PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING

David Klement, University of South Florida (USF) Institute of Public Policy and Leadership, spoke of Public Sector Leadership Training to be offered in the spring. The program will benefit government and managers or supervisors with limited training. A series of academic training programs included a health care reform forum and an internet safety program with the IT Department. This program will collaborate with the College of Business and will provide academic certification.

(Enter Mr. McClash)

Ross Alander, USF Management Studies, provided a handout of the program, and outlined the classes. This program is designed to enhance service and/or productivity for three leadership positions: potential managers and coaches; new managers and coaches; and managers and coaches with minimal leadership and management training. Older managers may not want to earn a degree but would be willing to complete a certificate program. He requested City officials and County representatives review the outline and compile a list of specific needs to be included in the program.

Discussion: Recommend government review; training program for County staff; offered to both Sarasota and Manatee Counties; a need for additional training; etc. [BC20091021DOC002](#)

2010 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

Nick Azzara, Manatee County Information Outreach Coordinator, spoke of meeting with Mayors, County Officials, and State Representatives to discuss common legislative priorities. He suggested a united front regarding the issues may carry more weight when lobbying in Tallahassee.

Tim McGonegal, School Board Superintendent, suggested implementing a sales tax on internet purchases.

Ms. Whitmore noted the County Commission recently voted not to support oil or gas drilling in state waters, and a resolution will be voted on by November 3, 2009. Holmes Beach City Councilman, **John Monetti**, concurred; **Robert Siekmann**, Vice-Mayor of the Town of Longboat Key noted already signing and distributing a resolution; Bradenton Mayor **Wayne Poston**, reported no action by the City of Bradenton has been taken; and **Harry Kinnan**, School Board member, stated the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council will soon have a recommendation. The City representatives were encouraged to place this on a November agenda for signature and support.

(Enter Mr. McClash)

Mr. Azzara noted the Chamber of Commerce spring legislative trip to Tallahassee will be held March 16-18, 2010. It would be beneficial for the cities, County, and School Board to be well represented.

Mr. McClash suggested a regional representative be appointed to work with the counties, municipalities, and surrounding communities as a collective voice for federal lobbying in Tallahassee.

Discussion: Need to act now to oppose oil or gas drilling; action is being initiated in Tallahassee; cannot wait until March; place on agendas for voting as soon as possible; etc.

Bob Gause, Manatee County School Board, spoke of prior support from the City of Palmetto for work force funding. Manatee Technical Institute (MTI) has lost approximately \$5 million a year in funding, and the shortfall prevents the implementation of training in new industries and careers. There is no certificate training program for Pharmacy Technicians in the County and no funds for training at MTI.

Marianne Barnebey, Bradenton City Council member, announced the state has discontinued much needed aid to libraries which are used by people who need access to computers to fill out applications and search for jobs.

Discussion: LECOM Pharmacy training; lab technicians; certification; add library aid to legislative platform; money will be a major issue this year; no official stance by the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) on offshore drilling; Florida League of Cities not taking position yet; west coast against the rest of the state; etc. [BC20091021DOC003](#)

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT - ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

Amy Anderson, School District Facilities Planning Manager, presented a handout with an overview of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) and status of the implementation of standards and practices. The ILA has created a School Concurrency Management System to ensure capacity will be available concurrent with new growth, and that the school construction approval process will be streamlined. A data tracking system is used to create the school capacity program for a five-year plan, and long-range capital improvement plan. She discussed the school concurrency analysis, school report, proportionate share mitigation, school service areas, and levels of service. Florida Statute requirements for high school service areas as well as the requirements of local governments to update the Capital Improvements Elements to include the school capacity program were discussed. Land Development Code amendments are being implemented to include the school concurrency processes and to update educational facilities planning. The School District will work with local governments to share public facilities such as after school programs at media centers, cafeterias, and playgrounds. A joint-use park is being created at Kinnan Elementary School. Improvements to the language and amendments to the Interlocal Agreement will be presented in early 2010 for adoption.

Discussion: Sidewalks are normally required on both sides of the streets within a two-mile radius of schools; ordinances in place; safety factors; etc. [BC20091021DOC004](#)

MOORING OF ABANDONED VESSELS IN WATERWAYS

Mr. Chappie suggested creating a task force for abandoned waterway vessels. This has been an issue for many years and affects all neighboring municipalities and counties.

Ms. Barnebey discussed the difficulties in dealing with derelict vessels in the Manatee River.

Discussion: Boat parking in front of homes; consensus of municipalities to implement task force; policy on graffiti on boats and bridges; include Sheriff's Office; etc.

Mr. Chappie confirmed he will meet with County staff and contact the municipalities to join forces. [BC20091021DOC005](#)

OIL DRILLING IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

Robert Siekmann, Town of Longboat Key Vice-Mayor, spoke of earlier discussion under the joint legislative platform, and how quickly the issue of oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico is changing. Six weeks ago oil drilling was on a fast track to be passed, but many key people in Tallahassee have now changed positions. Longboat Key is in both Manatee and Sarasota Counties, and Sarasota County has not taken a formal position on the issue; however, the municipalities of Sarasota County voted unanimously, drafted separate resolutions, and subsequently signed a letter to the Legislators in opposition of off-shore drilling. Names and contact information of State officials has been listed on the Sarasota County website with encouragement to contact Legislators to oppose offshore drilling. He encouraged Manatee County officials to draft city resolutions and to join together in signing a letter to Legislators to present a united front to oppose drilling.

Discussion: Manatee County Board of County Commissioners will have a resolution ready for a vote on November 3, 2009; appoint representative to present resolution to the municipalities; have cities expedite meetings to join in supporting resolution; Manatee County and City officials should sign one resolution to be more powerful; etc.

Mr. Siekmann reported a meeting was held earlier in the day with barrier island officials and city officials where they were informed of the resolution. All the officials will present the resolution to their boards in the coming week and there should be unanimous support in opposition to drilling.

Discussion: Provide bullet points on specific reasons for opposition; mention harm to tourism; legal counsel to provide specific information; etc.

Mr. McClash suggested a regional west coast representative be appointed to organize all the cities for a united front in opposition to drilling. He suggested Mr. Azzara could take the lead and compile a consolidated list, work with marketing venues, and garner Community Development District (CDD) support to unite opposition efforts.

Discussion: Longboat Key Town Manager has already begun compiling a list; confer with County Administration or legal staff; expedite city meetings; Sarasota County convocation letter and resolutions are available to model documents for Manatee County municipalities; e-mail the mayors; need them to vote at first meeting after November 3rd County Commission meeting; etc. [BC20091021DOC006](#)

TAMPA BAY NITROGEN MANAGEMENT CONSORTIUM

Rob Brown, Natural Resources Department, provided a 2009 Reasonable Assurance Update Summary from the Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium (NMC). He reported the last evaluation of Sarasota Bay confirmed there is more seagrass now than in 1950. There are goals to bring Tampa Bay up to the same standards for the critical seagrass habitats. Similar processes will be used to target water quality goals in all jurisdictions to try to stay ahead of federal mandates. The goal was to collect information from projects in all local jurisdictions to improve quality and protect natural resources, and results have shown improved water quality and seagrass habitats. There was a

nitrogen problem a year and a half ago that resulted in permitting problems for wastewater treatment plants, stormwater facilities, and private sector industrial facilities. The NMC and Natural Resources Department chose to begin the evaluation and allocation and provide the information to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Cities of Bradenton and Palmetto, and Manatee County will be receiving direct allocations and will be requesting the Board's declaration of support by the end of the year.

Holly Greening, Executive Director of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, noted the Tampa Bay area is meeting regulatory water quality goals, but to maintain this progress, FDEP and the EPA are requiring allocations that do not exceed the existing loads to Tampa Bay from all sources. The technical work has been completed and each individual wastewater treatment plant, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, and industrial point source has an allocation for the amount of nitrogen which can be discharged over the next five years. The NMC has identified a process to work with entities needing additional allocations through transfers or credits, or by implementing projects that help to reduce nitrogen by creating a buffer that can be used by wastewater treatment plants or MS4s. There is a technical agreement by staff for the declarations to be given to the County and the cities of Bradenton and Palmetto within the next few months. This is the first time that entities are able to define their own allocations instead of having it done through the regulatory process.

Mr. Brown noted workshops could be held within the next few months, and a technical staff is available to review the process and allocations. A fact sheet by The Florida Association of Counties on the designated uses and reclassification of water bodies was distributed with the Status of Numeric Nutrient Criteria Development established by the EPA.

Discussion: Policy and procedure process; deal with problems through the consortium instead of individually; growth issues; work with other regional partners; great for the community; etc.

[BC20091021DOC007](#)

NEW POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR FILMING IN MANATEE COUNTY

Jessica Grace, Bradenton Convention and Visitors Bureau, presented an overview of the Regional Manatee County Film Permit handout with objectives, goals, and suggested guidelines and procedures. The goal is for a "one-stop permitting" process, and it is suggested each municipality designate a person to coordinate with the Manatee County Film Commission Office. A resolution has been drafted and will be distributed upon completion. The Sarasota County Film Commission, which is based under the Economic Development Council, recently hosted several producers. The producers are enticed into the area with tax break incentives and are large economic drivers for the County. Sarasota County hosts many commercial film shoots for advertising through local connections.

Discussion: This is for policy and procedure; official and legal review; permit fees established by the cities; coordination between cities and county; why charge a fee for something that will create an economic opportunity; if Manatee County has permit fee and Sarasota does not, they will go to Sarasota; production companies always try to negotiate fees; bring back to next meeting with feedback from cities; etc.

[BC20091021DOC008](#)

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

On-line Petitions

Mr. Getman noted a recent on-line petition regarding the murder of Florida State Trooper Daniel Burns where several thousand people signed in a short period of time. He suggested an on-line petition could be started to gather signatures to support the west coast's position opposing oil drilling.

TIGER Grant

Mr. McClash reported on a recent request by Port Manatee to support a Federal Stimulus Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant with U.S. Representative John Mica. The \$30 million grant is very competitive, and he urged the County Administrator to work with the Port to supply a format to the cities in support of the grant application.

Federal Job Training Program

Patrick Roth, Bradenton City Council, announced the Central Community Redevelopment Agency will take part in a federal workshop program for job retraining to be held at the Holiday Inn in Sarasota County on October 28, 2009, at 8:30 a.m.

Next Meeting

Ms. Whitmore suggested the next Council of Governments meeting be planned so it would not be in conflict with the regularly scheduled barrier island elected officials meeting. School Board Superintendent, Tim McDonegal, tentatively offered to host the next meeting at Ballard Elementary School on January 20, 2010.

[BC20091021DOC009](#)

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adj: 5:24 p.m.
/mh

Minutes Approved: November 17, 2009