

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
MAY 7, 2004
(10:00 A.M.)**

Proceedings of a special emergency meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of St. Johns County, Florida, began and held in the Auditorium at the County Administration Building, 4020 Lewis Speedway (County Road 16-A) and U.S. 1 North, St. Augustine, Florida.

Present were: Karen Stern, District 2, Chair
Bruce Maguire, District 4, Vice Chair
Nicholas Meiszer, District 1
Marc Jacalone, District 3
David Halstead, Assistant County Administrator
Michael Hunt, Deputy County Attorney
Allen MacDonald, Finance Director
Diane Gorski, Clerk's Office

(05/07/04 - 1 - 10:07 a.m.)
Stern called the meeting to order.

(05/07/04 - 1 - 10:08 a.m.)
ROLL CALL

Stern stated that four Commissioners were present, and that Commissioner Bryant was absent.

(10:08 a.m.) Hunt added Item 1a. Summerhaven Beach Ramp Walk Over

(05/07/04 - 1 - 10:09 a.m.)
APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Motion by Jacalone, seconded by Maguire, carried 4/0, with Bryant absent to approve the Special Meeting Agenda as amended.

(05/07/04 - 1 - 10:09 a.m.)

1. EDWARD BRINE MEMORIAL STATE & LOCAL LAW FEDERAL GRANT. TO CONSIDER A RECOMMENDATION FOR COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR A LAW ENFORCEMENT TRIBUTE GRANT

MaryAnn Pettigrew, Grant Research Assistant to the Sheriff's Office thanked staff on behalf of the Sheriff's Office for hearing the request on such short notice. She explained that this was a Law Enforcement Tribute Act and that the Sheriff's Office had formally applied for this grant in December 2003 and had just been notified that the request needed County approval and mentioned that there would be no cost to the county. She explained that this was a request for funds to create a permanent tribute for those that had been killed in the line of duty. She explained that the courtyard would be located on the Sheriff's Office grounds and would contain a fountain, a bench engraved in the memory of those killed in the line of duty, a brick foundation, some of which would be pavers that would be sold to the community to support and pay tribute to those killed in the line of duty. She stated that there would be an outdoor kiosk, and would be handicapped accessible with an audio presentation which would allow the public to touch the screen and hear a tribute to those Officers killed in the line of duty. She

mentioned that the grant match totaled \$10,185.00 but that in reality, once the public had purchased the pavers the match would be a little over \$3,000.00. She mentioned that the memorial had been included in the Sheriff's budget. (10:12 a.m.) Jacalone clarified that no additional monies were needed from the county and asked if the memorial would recognize all law enforcement personnel from agencies that had been killed in the line of duty, or just Sheriff's Deputies. Pettigrew answered that it would be St. Johns County Sheriff's Deputies only. (10:12 a.m.) Jacalone asked if there was a way that it could be altered to include law enforcement personnel within the other agencies in St. Johns County. Pettigrew listed the names to be honored at the memorial: Deputy Guy White (1911), Abe Snyder (1911), Deputy Perry Alonzo Turlington (1927), Deputy Frank Quigley (1933), Deputy Lamarr Knight (1933), Deputy Harold Rehart (1968), Deputy Beach Marshall Ronald Parker (1975), Deputy Joseph Salano Sr. (1983), and Deputy Josh Edwin Blyler (2004). (10:13 a.m.) Meiszer asked for clarification on the location of the memorial and Pettigrew explained that it would be outside the Sheriff's Department, to the right of the front entrance. Meiszer asked Mr. Hunt why this qualified for an emergency meeting. (10:15 a.m.) Hunt explained that the Chair had determined that it was an emergency because today was the last day the Sheriff's Office could submit the grant application. (10:16 a.m.) Maguire asked for clarification on the kiosk. Pettigrew stated that the display would be computerized and able to be updated and that personnel from the World Golf Village would donate time to set it up. He asked if parking would be available to the public. Pettigrew stated that no parking problem was anticipated. (10:17 a.m.) Stern approved of the memorial and expressed her appreciation of the Wall of Honor.

(10:18 a.m.) Jacalone moved to authorize, Maguire seconded, carried 4/0, with Bryant absent the County and/or the Sheriff's Department to complete and submit an application for a Law Enforcement Tribute Grant.

(05/07/04 - 2 -10:19 a.m.)

1a. SUMMERHAVEN BEACH WALKOVER

Michael Hunt, Deputy County Attorney, explained that he had been informed that the county wanted to replace the Summerhaven Beach crossover and that there was a question as to whether or not the state was going to require the county to make it American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant, and if that were the case, it would not be financially feasible and that beach access would continue to be improbable to those with disabilities. He explained that a request had been made to draft a letter for the Chair's signature to be sent to the proper authorities at the state to grant a waiver of the ADA requirement or relief. (10:20 a.m.) Jacalone explained that the ramp had been lost to a storm several months ago and stated that the County wanted to replace the ramp but that the Department of Transportation (DOT) would not issue a permit to replace the structure unless it were fully ADA compliant. He explained that the Board needed to request in writing relief from the ADA Compliance Regulation allowing the County to replace the ramp in its original design due to the significant cost difference in making it ADA complaint. Jacalone stated that the Board had met with people from DOT and Representative Wiles and Mr. Williams and the County had received an answer for this request and that letter might help. (10:23 a.m.) Maguire stated that a walkover that was ADA compliant accessing areas that were not ADA compliant would be impractical. (10:23 a.m.) Meiszer suggested that in the description of the project it not be called a stand-alone beach access, but that it should be described as a part, one access point of a bigger project. He mentioned that the north side of the inlet was already handicapped accessible with a parking area, and ramp. He explained that the request should identify handicapped and public access to the beach area at the north entrance and explained that it would not be feasible to make the south side of the park ADA compliant due to cost restraints and the inaccessibility issues at both ends of the ramp, particularly the

one the beach. Dave Williams, Recreation Department concurred. Meiszer requested blending the project into one and identifying the north entrance as handicapped accessible. He stated that if this was not acceptable, that the County should consider spending the money to make it ADA compliant. He asked Williams for cost comparisons. (10:25 a.m.) Williams explained that the lowest quote they had received so far, to replace the walkover in its original design would be \$ 4,400 and that to replace it with an ADA compliant access point with no guarantee that it would weather a storm, would cost a minimum of \$40,000 plus permitting fees. Meiszer spoke in favor of an access point for the public and requested removal of the chain link fence that he finds offensive. (10:26 a.m.) Jacalone clarified the cost comparisons and concurred with Meiszer's suggestion to combine the request to include the whole area. (10:27 a.m.) Stern concurred; she stated that the letter should mention that the County was already ADA compliant at the north end and that the south end needed to be opened for public access.

(10:27 a.m.) Halstead asked the Board to make a motion to move next Tuesday's Regular Agenda Item No. 1 and reports, to the end of the afternoon's Regular Agenda.

(10:27 a.m.) **Motion by Jacalone, seconded by Maguire, carried 4/0, with Bryant absent, to move Regular Agenda Item No. 1, and reports from the Tuesday, May 11, 2004 morning Regular Agenda to the end of the afternoon's Regular Agenda, and for the change to be properly noticed.**

(10:28 a.m.) **Motion by Jacalone, seconded by Maguire, carried 4/0, with Bryant absent, to adjourn the meeting.**

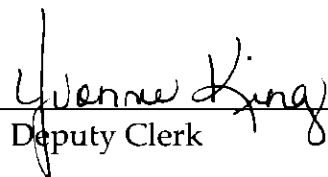
With there being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Approved _____ May 25 _____, 2004

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
Karen R. Stern, Chair

ATTEST: CHERYL STRICKLAND, CLERK

By: 
Deputy Clerk