

OKALOOSA COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 25, 1997

1. A "Special" meeting of the Okaloosa County League of Cities Executive Board was called to order on Tuesday, March 25, 1997 at 12:00 p.m. at the Upper Crust Restaurant by President Brenda Bush.

Present: President Councilwoman Brenda Bush, Crestview; Commissioner Heyward Strong, Jr., Valparaiso; Treasurer Councilwoman Sharon Slivko, Destin; Vice President Libby Arcemont, Mary Esther; Councilman Al Swihart, Niceville; Mayor Montague, Shalimar; Beverly Fields, Crestview (Recorder). Absent: Councilman Jim Kendrix, Cinco Bayou; Mayor Perry Cadenhead, Laurel Hill; Commissioner Nick Nicholson, Okaloosa County.

2. Commissioner Strong met with Fred Cobb of the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department, on the Double Taxation issue. Much discussion ensued relative to this issue. The County proposed restriction to only 3 cities; the league opposed this restriction; more discussion ensued. During the first week in May, the Cities of Fort Walton Beach/Valparaiso/Crestview will review data and information to pursue the issue further. The County representatives will make their recommendations to the County Commissioners soon. Comments by Mayor Montague, Commissioners Strong and Swihart expressed their opinions relative to the issue. The various members present all agreed that a unified position by the league members was absolutely essential in order to accomplish the league's objective. More comments by City Clerk Spencer, Councilwoman Slivko, Commissioner Strong and Mayor Montague were made relative to the issue. City Clerk Spencer will research records of Fort Walton Beach to validate comments made by John Dowde relative to the lawsuit filed in 1985. Much emphasis was placed on what the County has done in the past, their operating and administrative practices and what could be done by the cities to assist the County and Sheriff's office. Fred Cobb will be asked to prepare an interlocal agreement between the Sheriff's Department and the cities to authorize the cities to issue warrants. More discussion ensued. Commissioner Strong initiated and sent letters to Childers, Melvin, Burroughs and Peaden to let them know the league opposes mandated legislation associated with the Police Officers local plans.

President Bush expressed appreciation to Commissioner Strong for devoting much time and effort toward this initiative. Another meeting is needed in the future. Commissioner Strong briefed the league members further. President Bush concluded the meeting by reminding everyone of the quarterly meeting on Thursday, March 27, 1997 at 6:00 p.m. Valparaiso is hosting and Darcy Foster will brief the league with an update of legislative events; dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.

3. The meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

BRENDA BUSH, President

