

**MINUTES OF THE OKALOOSA COUNTY
LEAGUE OF CITIES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2000**

CALL TO ORDER

President Glenda Glover called the meeting to order at 12 noon at Cinco Bayou Town Hall.

PRESENT

Councilwoman Sharon Slivko-Destin
Mayor Glenda Glover-Fort Walton Beach
Councilwoman Fay Miller-Laurel Hill
Mayor Del Dunn-Mary Esther
Mayor Gary Combs-Shalimar
Commissioner Hayward Strong-Valparaiso
Commissioner Ray Sansom-Okaloosa County

ABSENT

Councilman Dutch Payne-Cinco Bayou
Councilwoman Brenda Bush-Crestview
Councilman Al Swihart-Niceville

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Sharon Slivko moved to approve the regular minutes of November 8, 1999. Motion was seconded by Mayor Del Dunn and carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Reported an ending balance of \$1,964.69 as of December 31, 1999. The Treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Update on Water Computer Model

Commissioner Sansom said it was discussed briefly at the County level but does not have a report at this time. Will provide a report at the February meeting. Mayor Glover said it would be placed on the February agenda.

Update on Proposed 1-cent Sales Tax

Discussed the upcoming meeting scheduled for January 18, 2000 with the School Board, County Commissioners, and Fort Walton Beach City Council. The meeting involves property exchange between school board and County and the possibility of Lowery Place site sold to the City of Fort Walton Beach. Further the OCLOC position has never been given to the County Commissioners to date. Felt the member cities should attend this meeting if possible. Also he is not sure of what all will be discussed at this meeting. Further in the future he will be taking back a report to the County Commissioners from the OCLOC monthly to keep them informed of various items. The 1-cent tax was discussed briefly and Commissioner Sansom said he believes the tax will have a hard time passing if the cities are not for it and said it may come up at the above meeting. The City of Fort Walton Beach requested the meeting be changed because it was on a regular Council meeting and thanked everyone concerned for changing the date. Discussed the formula for the 1-cent sales tax provided by the State and the Cities are requesting this formula be changed to help the cities. The need for a Judicial Center for the south county was discussed briefly and the need for the cities to obtain more of the 1-cent sales tax for needed infrastructure projects. Members especially wanted a meeting with the County Commissioners to discuss the 1-cent sales tax. Several requests have been made but the County Commission has taken no action.

Update on Okaloosa County Leisure Services Department – Commissioner Strong

Commissioner Strong said he received the backup information from County Manager Chris Holley and wanted everyone to review the document and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting. Commissioner Strong reviewed some the points of the report and does not believe it is fair to the cities. Further would like to have a workshop with the County on this subject. Finally need input back from each city so it can be passed to Commissioner Sansom for review at the County level. Commissioner Sansom said the County will hold a workshop after the first of the year and will invite the cities for their input.

Double Taxation Hearing – 1-26-00 – Tallahassee

Mayor Glover said the hearing would be an oral argument on the double taxation issue. Further, will contact Attorney Levy to see if representatives from Okaloosa Cities should attend.

NEW BUSINESS

NW Florida league of cities board meeting on 1-5-00 in Tallahassee

Mayor Glover said the meeting would be held this afternoon in Tallahassee and several representatives will be attending. Discussion will be the upcoming legislative session. Further there will be several legislators present. Also the topic of solving the revenue sharing at the State level will be discussed. Discussion continued on obtaining resolutions from all cities in FL in support of solving the revenue sharing issue.

1-20-00 – Strategy Meeting 2000 – Tallahassee – REMINDER

This is just a reminder for member cities to consider attending this FLOC meeting.

“Census 2000” Cities receive fair share on formula

Mayor Glover said if the cities could get a good census count it would help in revenue sharing. Further she is reminding her Council of this at each meeting. Also if anyone knows of assistance to the census counters to help them as much as possible. Commissioner Strong reviewed what happened to Valparaiso in the last census count.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORT FROM CITIES

Cinco Bayou Absent, no report.

Crestview Absent, no report.

Destin Survived Y2K with a few isolated problems. Have just purchased some property next to our Community Center for more parking area. Despite the Destin controversy heard very good things about Celebration 2000 in Crestview.

Fort Walton Beach The Celebration 2000 was a great success and we enjoyed being a part of it. We had First Night, which was very successful with fireworks at midnight and think next year it will be even bigger and a real family get-together. Also our traffic-calming plan has been completed in our downtown area. Our City plans to work together with the County thus providing support for all concerned.

Laurel Hill Enjoyed the Celebration 2000 and think they did a superb job. Considering annexation around our City and bidding out a contract for sanitation at our meeting tonight. The Christmas decorations were provided by individual citizens and organizations thus making our City very pretty for the holiday season plus being very cost effective for the City.

Mary Esther Have submitted an application for our wastewater grant and recently signed a resolution against off shore well drilling. Also felt the Celebration 2000 was very well done in Crestview.

Shalimar Has almost no commercial property left within the City limits. Looking to annex property that has all the benefits of City taxes but doesn't pay anything. Looking for any assistance to help on this subject.

Valparaiso Had two quick meeting for the homestead exemption extension for seniors which will cost the City about \$7,000 or more. Permit from the NWFWM came through and in the process of doing a plan to use less water in the city limits. Feel that they already use less water now because of the retired citizen population. Also looking for more grants for different infrastructure projects.

Okaloosa County Do not have any issues that everyone is not aware of or been talked about. Wants to work with the cities with an open mind towards results. Will put on the agenda after every meeting to let the County know what the cities are doing.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 3, 2000.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.

Glernda Glover, President

/s

