

**MINUTES OF THE OKALOOSA COUNTY
LEAGUE OF CITIES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2000**

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Councilwoman Brenda Bush-Crestview
Councilwoman Sharon Slivko-Destin
Mayor Glenda Glover-Fort Walton Beach
Mayor Del Dunn-Mary Esther
Councilman Al Swihart-Niceville
Mayor Gary Combs-Shalimar
Commissioner Heyward Strong-Valparaiso
Commissioner Ray Sansom-Okaloosa County
Administrator Connie Gluvna-Shalimar

ABSENT

Councilman Dutch Payne-Cinco Bayou
Councilwoman Fay Miller-Laurel Hill

MINUTES

Commissioner Heyward Strong moved to approve the regular minutes of January 6, 2000. Motion was seconded by Mayor Gary Combs and carried unanimously.

TREASURER

Reported an ending balance of \$1,941.55 as of January 31, 2000. The Treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit. Further statements have been sent to the Cities for 2000 dues and lunch fee for each representative.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Update on Water Computer Model

No report by Commissioner Ray Sansom. Further he would get an update from Commissioner Nicholson on the status of the model. Commissioner Strong reviewed costs stating the bulk was being paid by the NWFWM, and approximately \$30,000 from RUA, with remaining amount to the cities requesting 25% now and remaining 75% near completion of model. This item will again be put on the March agenda.

Update on proposed 1-cent Sales Tax

Commissioner Strong summarized the joint meeting with the School Board, Commissioners, and City of Fort Walton Beach. The meeting mainly talked about the judicial needs and how much property would be needed for a new complex. A memo is attached to the agenda detailing his thoughts on the judicial property needs and he reviewed it with those in attendance. Further they never really got around to discussing the 1-cent proposed sales tax. Commissioner Sansom said if they did request the 1-cent sales tax that they would need the cities support. There was further discussion that only Valparaiso was interested in the proposed tax and the other cities did not really care, which was not true. Discussed the

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letters sent to the County Commission Chairman relating to this issue. Mayor Glover said she would review the letters she sent previously and report back to the Board. Commissioner Strong said all the cities wanted was to discuss the subject with the County. Commissioner Sansom said the County, to date has never talked about the proposed tax at a regular meeting.

Update on Okaloosa County Leisure Services Department – Heyward Strong

Commissioner Strong said all the cities were to submit cost on operating their Parks Department and he will consolidate budgets and submit to the County. Further discussion consisted of addressing the area parks and their needs and making it all equal for the cities and the county. Commissioner Sansom said the County received many calls from parks needing services in the unincorporated areas. Further they would talk with the cities on a co-op system for all the parks in the County. Discussion continued on the best effort to make it even and equalized within the County.

Update on Double Taxation Hearing on January 26th in Tallahassee

Commissioner Strong said he and City Manager Reid Silverboard and Mike Flynt attended the session in Tallahassee. Further he thought the Courtroom was great but the sound system limited hearing during the session. Both sides gave equal representation. Jim Curry from Okaloosa County was also in attendance. The County's position was the City's waited too long. One of the Judges asked a lot of questions to both the City and County. Did not know when we would receive the order from Tallahassee.

Reminder on Census 2000

Mayor Glover again reminds the City's that it is going on and if you know of anyone who might help to please pass it along. It is important for the Cities to receive a fair census count.

NEW BUSINESS

Title Loans Workshop Fort Walton Beach City Council 2-28-00 5:30pm

Mayor Glover said the Title Loan workshop announcement and letters have been sent to all Mayors inviting them to our workshop. This is a date that Mr. Milligan can be present and a representative from his office in Pensacola. This has gone to our Council before and it failed because the participation was for the title loan companies and we need defense from our side. Encouraged those in attendance to attend the workshop. Valparaiso passed an ordinance limiting title loans in their City and Santa Rosa County has also.

NWFLOC Board of Directors Meeting on February 17, 2000 in Destin

Remind everyone this meeting will be in Destin and recommended Jeff Hendry contact Destin Mayor Ken Beard for use of their Council Chambers. The meeting will be a catered light supper from a sandwich shop in Destin. They are really trying to spread out the meeting so everyone will be able to attend as often as possible.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS FROM CITIES

Cinco Bayou Absent, no report.

Crestview Discussed the civic center and library and thanked everyone for participating in the Celebration 2000 event. Brenda said they would have an answer on the VA Nursing home on the 9th.

Destin Having a meeting with FDOT in a workshop setting in an effort to see what they can do about the traffic situation. Sharon announced there are 4-seats coming up for election and she will not be running for her seat this time.

Fort Walton Beach Talked about all the good things happening in our downtown area such as a Publix market taking over the outlet center and the ballet beginning reconstruction of their building. We are moving forward on our library and think it will work out in the next year or two.

Laurel Hill Absent, no report.

Mary Esther Applying for more grants to complete the Doolittle Park and announced he is not running for Mayor again in the upcoming election. Further is possibly considering running for Commissioner as

several citizens have approached him. Said if he did, the cities would certainly have a city friendly commissioner. Also touched upon the VA Nursing home proposed for the Crestview area.

Niceville Al said he wanted to add to Crestview's announcements about obtaining a VA Nursing Home in their area and asked for the cities to support that effort. Most of the cities have already supported the concept. He further said telephone calls would help. The library is the biggest thing going on in Niceville and they will be moving into the library in approximately May. Under Normal City business they are still working on the Turkey Creek project walkway which goes all the way up to College Road. Approval of the grant was obtained and they will begin working when the temperature warms up.

Shalimar Announced they have a new administrator, Connie Gluvna, which he introduced to the cities. Further she is a computer expert and will help if needed. Nell Webb is still the City Clerk and will handle finances for the town. They have a new web page, called (shalimarfl.org) and invited everyone to have a look at it. Also working on a water front park now in the Garnier's Bayou area.

Valparaiso Touched upon best management practices site assessment for habitat restoration in the Toms and Boggy Bayou basins, Choctawhatchee Bay, which has been a fabulous program. Approved franchise for 10 years for Okaloosa Gas. Our election is in March, in which we have an incumbent running and two new people. The Chamber is in a big program in the Niceville/Valparaiso area, which will tear down the old building and build a new one.

Okaloosa County Said the County has increased the funding for the cities on the library this past Tuesday. Everyone agreed this has been a success for everyone involved.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 2, 2000.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:12pm.

Glenda Glover, President

/s

