

**MINUTES OF THE OKALOOSA COUNTY  
LEAGUE OF CITIES  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2000**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**PRESENT**

Councilman Dutch Payne-Cinco Bayou  
Councilwoman Sharon Slivko-Destin  
Mayor Glenda Glover-Fort Walton Beach  
Councilwoman Fay Miller-Laurel Hill  
Mayor Del Dunn-Mary Esther  
Councilman Al Swihart-Niceville  
Mayor Gary Combs-Shalimar  
Commissioner Heyward Strong-Valparaiso  
Commissioner Ray Sansom-Okaloosa County

**ABSENT**

Councilwoman Brenda Bush-Crestview

**MINUTES**

Councilman Al Swihart moved to approve the regular minutes of February 3, 2000. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyward Strong and carried unanimously.

Mayor Combs asked if the minutes could be e-mailed, faxed, or mailed if they are completed prior to the meeting.

**TREASURER**

Reported an ending balance of \$2,818.41 as of February 29, 2000. The Treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Update on Water Computer Model**

No report by Commissioner Ray Sansom. Further he is waiting for an update from Commissioner Nicholson on the status of the model.

**Update on proposed 1-cent Sales Tax**

Mayor Glover reported another letter was sent to the County Commissioners requesting a workshop but no response has been received. Commissioner Sansom reported he requested the letter be placed on the County agenda but he was told some people were unhappy about putting in on the agenda, so it is not on the agenda. He said he thinks it will come up Tuesday night because the property for the School Board is on the agenda. Mayor Combs mentioned attending the Commissioners meeting to ask why a workshop will not be held. Commissioner Strong suggested the City representatives sit down with a County representative to go over each of the Cities projects, then the City representatives go back to their respective City for discussion and approval, then hold a workshop with the County Commissioners. Commissioner Sansom will bring up at the Commissioners meeting that he will be the representative to sit down with the Cities representatives to go over their projects.

Update on Okaloosa County Leisure Services Department – Heyward Strong

Commissioner Sansom reported on the County workshop to discuss the concept of a countywide parks cooperative. He said Kathy O'Dell will put together a work group made up of the Cities to determine if there is any way the County can enhance the Cities recreation programs for the unincorporated residents, similar to the library cooperative. Commissioner Strong added he attended the meeting and had the impression that the County did not want to duplicate what the Cities are currently doing and the Cities need to provide Commissioner Sansom the amount that will need to go into an MSTU budget.

Update on Double Taxation Hearing on January 26<sup>th</sup> in Tallahassee

Mayor Glover provided a copy of the letter received from Mr. Levy and noted that the Cities lost the ruling. She is getting information from Jerry Miller to have Mr. Levy give the Cities an idea where the decision came from. When that information is received she will send it to everyone.

Reminder on Census 2000

Mayor Glover again reminded everyone about the Census 2000.

Update on Title Loan Issue (Workshop 2-28-00 5:30 p.m.)

Mayor Glover reported the City had a 3-½ hour meeting on the title loan issue. She said they received a lot of information from title loan businesses. There were representatives from Mr. Butterworth's office, and from the Naval Air Station who gave information on how it is affecting the base. She said she would go to Council at the next meeting to ask what direction they want to go. She reported Basil Bathea called to tell her Gen. Kostelnik asked him when the city was going to do something about the title loans. She said the County discussed the issue and decided to let the State do something. Mayor Dunn said Mary Esther is interested in doing something. Commissioner Payne suggested everyone go back to their Councils to alert them about the title loans and check cashing businesses so that maybe they can enact legislation.

## NEW BUSINESS

Letter from Governor's Office

Mayor Glover provided a copy of the letter from the Governor's office on the appointment of Mayor Tommy McDonald to the Water Advisory Panel.

NWFLOC Board of Directors Meeting on March 16, 2000 in Graceville

Reported the March meeting will be in Graceville. Mr. Hendry will send out notices on the exact location.

Resolution on Municipal Funding

Mayor Glover reported Fort Walton Beach adopted a resolution in support of establishing a method that assures a reasonable distribution of revenue sharing income. It was sent to all municipalities, legislative representatives, the NWFLC and the FLC to pursue legislative change. She encouraged the other cities to also adopt a resolution. Commissioner Strong reported the FLC is putting together information with all the resolutions sent in to submit to the legislators on two Bills. One Bill is on the elimination of the cigarette tax and the other Bill is to restore revenue sharing. Mayor Glover mentioned e-mail was received asking everyone to call their representatives to ask they co-sponsor the two bills.

Letter to political reps on groundwater, etc., funding

Mayor Glover provided a copy of the letter mailed to Governor Bush that references municipal funding and expresses concern about the insufficient funding of wastewater, storm water and surface water projects.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS FROM CITIES

Cinco Bayou Dutch announced there are two vacancies and three people running for the upcoming election. Laguna Landing is almost completed, they have done landscaping around town and the town hall, and they are in the process of cleaning up Linwood Park.

Crestview Absent, no report

Destin Sharon announced they approved plans for a new 12,000 square foot library that will have a whole area dedicated strictly to computers and there will be a meeting room that will accommodate 60-70 people plus it is designed to operate separately from the library. The library is also expandable at some time in the future, and Council also discussed building a smaller eastern branch of the library. They are still working on a sports complex behind City Hall. She announced this will be her last meeting and wanted to tell everyone how important this organization is and how proud she is to have been a part of it. She appreciated the opportunity for having worked with everyone. She will check on the date of the March dinner meeting to be hosted by Destin.

Fort Walton Beach Nothing further to report.

Laurel Hill Fay reported they are applying for monies to fund a Senior Citizen Center. They also want to build a new firehouse and need a new fire truck. Received federal funding for storm water run off project on Sunnyside Avenue that is almost completed.

Mary Esther Dell reported the City is working on CDBG grants and another P2000 grant to pick up more land in the City. It is just business as usual. This is his last meeting and he enjoyed working with everyone.

Niceville Al reported they are waiting for the contractor to finish the library and anticipate it will take close to a month to move everything into it. The Turkey trail is about ½ to 2/3 complete, and they ran into problems with the pilings. They are starting to work on a new water tower.

Shalimar No report.

Valparaiso Heyward reported two vacancies and three people running for the upcoming election.

Okaloosa County No report

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2000.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Glenda Glover, President

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