

**MINUTES OF THE OKALOOSA COUNTY  
LEAGUE OF CITIES  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2001**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President John Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:08 at Cinco Bayou Town Hall.

**THOSE PRESENT:**

Councilwoman Sara Carroll – Cinco Bayou (Secretary/Treasurer)  
Councilwoman Brenda Bush – Crestview  
Mayor Ken Beaird – Destin  
Mayor Glenda Glover – Fort Walton Beach  
Mayor John Thomas – Mary Esther (President)  
Mayor Randall Wise – Niceville (For Al Swihart)  
City Manager Tom Burns – Shalimar (For Mayor Combs)  
Commissioner Heyward Strong – Valparaiso  
Col. Jimmie Smith – Eglin Air Force Base

**ABSENT:**

Councilwoman Fay Miller – Laurel Hill (Vice-President)  
Commissioner Shirley Ransom – Okaloosa County

**MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Mayor Beaird to approve the August 2, 2001 minutes with one correction (John Smith to John Thomas). Mayor Wise seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

As of September 1, 2001 reported a balance of \$3,119.20. Treasurer's report was filed for audit.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**OLoC September Dinner Meeting.** Mayor Thomas brought up the invited guests and who would be paying for their meal, and it was decided that the OLoC would pay for Senator Clary, Rep. Jerry Melvin and possibly Representative Don Brown. Speaking on behalf of the host city, Valparaiso, Comm. Strong said that they would pay for the keynote speaker, Jerry Melvin.

**Confirm Representative of the Year.** The only name Mayor Thomas said that he had received from board members for this honor was Jerry Melvin, and all were in agreement. Mayor Thomas said he would get a plaque for Mr. Melvin, as we had already gotten one for Col. Bird being named as the Honorary Mayor.

**One-Cent Sales Tax.** Each City had meetings or had scheduled one to give the "for" and "against" committees an opportunity to present to the public. Mayor Thomas said that Bill Koch was not against the cities receiving this tax, but was very vocal against the County because of the government center.

**By-Law Changes for Term of Board Members.** He said that the president had been a one-year position, and wanted to consider making this a 2-year position. It does, however, put a strain on the secretarial support if it is changed to 2 years. Mayor Glover suggested that it remain a one-year position and simply ask the person filling the post if they would like to continue serving. All were agreeable to this. Comm. Strong said that we do need a nominating committee, and Mayor Glover, Brenda Bush and Ken Beaird agreed to serve on this. There was protocol discussion on this subject with no changes. Comm. Strong said that he has heard from our State legislators that they are very glad to see the cities working well together through this board.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Meeting Time Change for October.** Due to the Penny for Progress final meeting, it was decided to have this meeting on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at noon in Cinco Bayou.

**Upcoming End of Year Activities.** Col. Smith said that General Kostelnik was retiring effective 1 January, but with leave and other considerations, expects the last day will be sometime in December. Although there would not be League involvement, the cities would be invited to attend the retirement festivities. Giving a going away gift was discussed, with past history and all area commanders being honored as a precedent to be set. (*Col. Smith had to depart at 12:40.*) Mayor Wise said that Valparaiso had a Christmas parade planned on 8 December. The Armed Forces day parade will be on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Mary Esther will have the Veteran's Day parade on November 10. Destin has their annual Christmas parade on December 8<sup>th</sup>, and Cmbr. Bush reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Crestview Music Festival would be on 14 and 15 September, and headlining would be Tracy Bird.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS FROM CITIES

**Shalimar** – Mr. Burns said that at the September League of Cities Dinner the agenda should have FRDAP check presentations as an item. Invitation letters were going to be sent by the Shalimar Deputy Clerk, and five cities would receive their checks from Jerry Melvin. Ms. Houchens was asked to make sure the newspapers were aware of the presentations to be made, not only for FRDAP checks but also for honoring Mr. Melvin and Col. Bird. Comm. Strong said that the League would pay for the media meal if they would cover the event. *Comm. Strong made a motion to approve payment for dinners of the press who would attend, and CWmn. Carroll seconded the motion. The motion carried.* CWmn. Carroll recommended that Michelle Nicholson from WEAR TV and Lee Forst from the Daily News be invited to cover the event, and Mayor Glover seconded the motion. *The motion carried.*

**Cinco Bayou** - They are having Vision workshop meetings weekly. They will also probably be having ordinance rewrites as a result of the meetings.

**Crestview** – Reported that there is a new bypass roadway proposal in process, and Florida Dept. of Transportation has been encouraged to do a study. They have been given 1,000 acres and there is a roadway there (393), which has to be widened from 4 to 6 lanes. They discussed the path of the bypass and where it would connect with Alabama roadways. (CWmn. Bush left at 1:05 p.m.)

**Destin** – Mayor Beaird had nothing to report.

**Fort Walton Beach** – They will be getting a grant to purchase the old Sound Restaurant property, although this is not in writing yet. It's a Florida Communities Trust grant for Public Lands. The ballet and library construction are moving right along. They have broken ground for new police and renovated fire department.

**Laurel Hill** – Comm. Strong said that he had seen CWmn. Miller at the Small Cities meeting, and she is not doing well.

**Mary Esther** – Concluding the budget meetings, and will be making a change in water rates.

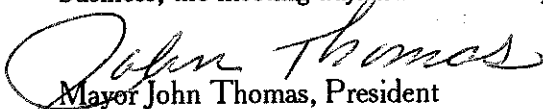
**Niceville** – Mayor Wise reported that Coun. Swihart was in Borneo, and there was nothing to report.

**Valparaiso** – Having the first budget public hearing tonight, and the Pennies for Progress meeting next Tuesday.

**Okaloosa County** – Absent, no report.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting for October was moved to the 5<sup>th</sup> due to the Pennies for Progress meeting. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

  
Mayor John Thomas, President

Is Approved 12-6-01

