

**MINUTES OF THE OKALOOSA COUNTY
LEAGUE OF CITIES
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY JULY 16, 2002**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Brenda Bush called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT:

Councilwoman Brenda Bush – Crestview (President)
Mayor Gary Combs – Shalimar (Vice President)
Mayor John Thomas – Mary Esther
Mayor Craig Barker – Destin
Mayor Glenda Glover – Ft. Walton Beach
Councilwoman Fay Miller – Laurel Hill
Councilman Heyward Strong - Valparaiso
Col. Jimmie Smith – Eglin Air Force Base

ALSO PRESENT:

Town Manager/Clerk Nell Webb – Cinco Bayou

ABSENT:

Mayor Randall Wise – Niceville
Mayor Sara Carroll – Cinco Bayou
Commissioner Shirley Ransom

MINUTES:

Motion was made by Mayor Barker to approve the June minutes and seconded by Councilwoman Miller and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

President read the Treasurers Report for Mayor Carroll as follows: Balance as of 5/31/02 - \$3,753.01, less June lunches \$31.00 with a balance of \$3,728.01 as of 6/30/02. Motion to approve the June report was made by Mayor Thomas; with the correction of \$6.00 deposit listed in the previous report but not included in the opening balance and was seconded by Councilman Strong and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

President Bush requested the By-Laws be reviewed for possible changes. A motion by Councilman Strong to approve President Bush, Mayor Glover and Mayor Thomas to serve on a committee to review the By-Laws and report back to the Board was made and seconded by Mayor Combs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Present Bush commented on the OLOC quarterly meeting and what a great host the City of Destin was. She stated how important it is to invite local legislators to the quarterly meetings to let them know what the specific needs of the cities are.

Present Bush stated that Jerry Miller would like to be an associate member and consider others as associate members for monetary support for the dinner meetings and not necessarily have them attend the business meetings. Councilman Strong stated that OLOC needed to consider going to the next level so the cities are heard. There was much discussion about how the cities are represented by the FLOC at the state level.

A Nominating Committee was appointed for the upcoming election of officers for OLOC. They are as follows: Mayor Sara Carroll, Mayor Craig Barker, and Mayor John Thomas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS FROM CITIES:

Cinco Bayou – Mayor Carroll was absent. Town Manager/Clerk spoke for Cinco. She stated they had the Bat House dedication; they are in the middle of budgets, also noted that the Utility Tax with Gulf Power has declined in the last five years and ask if any other cities had any problems in this area.

Crestview - Councilwoman Bush stated FDOT is continuing with the work of HWY 85. Fire and Police departments have moved into their new building which gives more space for administrative offices in City Hall. Growth is continuing at a rapid pace.

Destin - Mayor Craig Barker stated they are in their budget cycle as well. Did calculations for a police department. They are currently contracted with the Okaloosa County Sheriff Department. The police department would be considerably more than using the Sheriff department. They hired a new Deputy City Manager. They anticipate raising their millage rate.

Fort Walton Beach – Mayor Glover stated the 24th will be the grand opening for the Golf Club and also will host the September quarterly dinner there. They have worked out a plan with Okaloosa County for repairs to Hill Avenue. Also have worked a plan with Cinco Bayou, the County and private individuals on repairs to Hughes Street.

Laurel Hill – Councilwoman Miller stated Laurel Hill is working on two grants. They think the grant for the Fire department may come through.

Mary Esther - Mayor Thomas reported that the city is considering raising their millage to 3.5 from 2.8.

Niceville – No Representative present.

Shalimar - Mayor Combs had to leave before he could comment on happenings in Shalimar.

Valparaiso – Councilman Strong stated Valparaiso had to replace one of their wells. Suggested be sure to check out all avenues before deciding on a well company. Started on Capital Improvements Program and will most likely have to raise millage by 2 mills.

Okaloosa County – Commissioner Ramson was not present.

Eglin Air Force Base – Col. Jimmie Smith reported that Col. Byrd transferred. The change of command will be on Friday. A new representative will be attending for the Air Force. Col. Jimmie Smith will be moving up to General Chervister staff.

President Bush will send a letter of appreciation to Col. Byrd for his participation from the Executive Board.

President stated that the Board had voted to support a letter from the City of Laurel, Town of Cinco Bayou and Shalimar requesting that the fees for their municipalities to belong to the Library Cooperative be at the same rate as the residents of the unincorporated area. The Board decided that the letter presented by Mayor Combs should be rewritten to change the verbiage and include Laurel Hill after the change.

NEXT MEETING:

Councilwoman Bush thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting will be August 1, 2002, at Cinco Bayou Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Brenda O.E. Bush
Councilwoman Brenda Bush

01 Aug. 02
Date Approved

