

OKALOOSA COUNTY LEAGUE OF CITIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OCTOBER 3, 2002

1. The regular meeting of the Okaloosa County League of Cities Executive Board of Directors was called to order on Thursday, October 3, 2002 at 12:00 p.m. at the Cinco Bayou Board Room by President Brenda Bush.

Present: President Councilwoman Brenda Bush, Crestview; Vice President Mayor Gary Combs, Shalimar; Treasurer Mayor Sara Carroll, Cinco Bayou; Mayor Craig Barker, Destin; Mayor Glenda Glover, Ft. Walton Beach; Mayor John Thomas, Mary Esther; Councilwoman Fay Miller, Laurel Hill; and, City Commissioner Heyward Strong, Valparaiso.

Absent: Councilman Al Swihart, Niceville; Okaloosa County Commissioner Shirley Ransom; and, Colonel Jimmie Smith, Eglin Air Force Base.

2. President Bush called attention to the minutes of the last meeting and requested an amendment to the City report with regard to the flag raising; requesting tape to provide clarity of statement.

President Bush asked for approval of same with a stipulation. Motion was made by Mr. Combs, seconded by Mr. Strong to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2002 meeting with the removal of Ms. Bush's sentence regarding the flag. After a brief discussion, Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Mr. Swihart), Motion carried.

3. Treasurer Sara Carroll stated the ending balance for September, 2002 was \$3,636.76. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report as read made by Ms. Glover, seconded by Mr. Strong. Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Mr. Swihart), Motion carried.

Mr. Strong requested with the balance being that, it would be a good time to begin having our legislators in under special meeting and sponsored by the Executive Board and charging each City to turn out enmass to meet with these legislators. Discussion ensued. Legislative session begins in March and Mr. Strong states that it would be a good time to have it in January, 2003. Motion was made by Mr. Strong to hold a special meeting on January 16, 2003 at Fort Walton Beach Country Club with members of the Legislative Delegation to prioritize agenda items for the upcoming session. After discussion, Motion was made by Mr. Strong, seconded by Ms. Carroll. Vote: 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Mr. Swihart). Motion carried.

Mr. Strong, Mayor Glover, Mayor Combs and Mayor Thomas were appointed to the planning committee for this event.

4. Mayor Thomas had requested a selection for Outstanding Statesman of the Year. Each city was mailed a letter requesting their selection. The following reported:

Town of Cinco Bayou
City of Ft. Walton Beach
Town of Shalimar
City of Crestview
City of Valparaiso

Charlie Clary
Jerry Melvin
Charlie Clary
Jeff Miller
Jeff Miller

After a brief discussion it was decided that Jeff Miller was selected as Outstanding Statesmen of the Year. A motion was made by Ms. Glover and seconded by Mr. Barker. Vote: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Mr. Swihart) motion carried.

Treasurer Carroll will secure this plaque for presentation which will be made at the December meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Combs, second by Barker; Vote: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Mr. Swihart), motion carried.

5. President Bush called for any unfinished business.

Ms. Bush brought up a copy of the letter she sent to Ms. Fowler at the Library Coop in reference to a letter she had forwarded to Ms. Bush from Mayor Combs and Mayor Carroll. Ms. Bush requested someone to address this letter. Ms. Glover mentioned the letter was not fully supported by the Board as stated. Further discussion ensued with regard to the Coop. Mayor Combs states the letter came about as a joint decision of the Executive Board. Ms. Bush read excerpts of the letter to the Board. Discussion ensued. Ms. Carroll read excerpts of the minutes of the June, 2002 meeting. The minutes reflect that each City listed would send individual letters. Further discussion ensued with regard to membership charges by the Coop.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held November 7, 2002. Mr. Strong requests each City provide their per capita operational costs of the library amount in the current budget for discussion on that date. Further discussion ensued.

Ms. Bush requested an update for the nomination committee. Mr. Thomas requests his name be removed from the committee so that he can be President. Discussion ensued. Mayor Carroll stated she met with the committee after the Executive Board meeting. She was asked if she would accept position of President of the Board and she accepted. Mr. Thomas was asked to be Vice-President and agreed. She was asked to contact Mayor Glover as Secretary/Treasurer and she agreed. Further discussion ensued. Motion to accept the nominations of the committee as reported by Mr. Combs; seconded by Mr. Strong. Vote: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 1 absent (Al Swihart), motion carries.

Ms. Bush states the changes to the By-laws will be presented to the Board next meeting. Discussion ensued with regard to the provision of Secretary to the Board. Further discussion ensued.

A statement was made by Mr. Combs regarding the absence of Niceville representation and the Board's action regarding absences. Motion was made by Ms. Glover; that the

City of Niceville be mailed a letter requesting they provide an attendee to each meeting of the Board; seconded by Ms. Carroll. After a brief discussion a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent (Mr. Swihart, Niceville).

6. The President called for Announcements/Reports from each City. They reported as follows:

As Mayor Barker needed to be excused early, he provided the following:

Destin - Mayor Barker informs the Board his City Council to hear a unique and large project in a quasi judicial setting regarding the Destin bridge.

Cinco Bayou - Mayor Carroll updated the Board on the Bat House stating it is completed and up and running. She further advised that the City was approved for a grant of \$50,000 toward park improvements. Cinco Bayou will send four attendees to the Annual Conference.

Crestview - Ms. Bush announces the unveiling of the Veteran's Memorial on the 23rd of March. Mr. Strong states there is a discrepancy regarding their donation to the monument.

Fort Walton Beach - Mayor Glover states the construction of the police station is on schedule. Ms. Bush stated her appreciation to their hosting of the Leagues meeting. Ms. Bush will send a letter of appreciation to John Wayne for his presentation.

Laurel Hill - Councilwoman Miller states the City received a FEMA grant in the amount of \$25,000 for the Fire Department to work with. Annual Hobo Festival is Saturday, October 5, 2002 and invited everyone to attend.

Mary Esther - Mayor Thomas states his City is doing fine other than a need for a new fire truck.

Niceville - Mr. Swihart was absent - no report given.

Shalimar - Mr. Combs announced that he must leave early and will not have a report.

Valparaiso - Commissioner Strong recommends that a couple of members from the Executive Board meet with the Commissioners one on one with their issues.

Eglin AFB - No representative was in attendance - no report given.

Okaloosa County - No representative was in attendance - no report given.

7. Ms. Bush announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting is on November 7, 2002 at Cinco Bayou Town Hall.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.


BRENDA BUSH, President

