

January 24, 2019
Infrastructure Surtax
Advisory Committee
Meeting

The regular meeting of the Okaloosa County Infrastructure Surtax Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Okaloosa County Administration Building, 1st Floor Training Room. Members present were Ms. Kathleen Sharon, District 3 member (Chairman); Mr. Jim Foreman, District 5 member (Vice Chairman); Mr. Henry Berry, District 1 member; Brig. Gen. (Ret) Robert Buhrow, District 2 member; and Mr. Matthew Turpin, District 4 member. Also present were Hon. Nathan Boyles, District 3 Commissioner; Hon. J.D. Peacock II, Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller; Hon. Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff; Mr. John Hofstad, County Administrator; Ms. Kay Godwin, Deputy County Administrator; Mr. Greg Kisela, Deputy County Administrator; Mr. Jason Autrey, Public Works Director; Mr. Ron Adimov, Finance Director; and Mr. Gary Stanford, Director of Treasury & Board Services.

Opening Remarks and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened by Ms. Sharon. Mr. Foreman made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, with a second by Mr. Turpin. The minutes were approved, 5-0.

Public Comments

None.

Presentation by Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Ashley opened with stating one of the primary needs is training. He also encouraged everyone to read Chapters 5, 6, and 7 of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission Report. The inability to communicate between Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement was a huge problem.

Sheriff Ashley proceeded through his slide presentation for his proposed 10,000 sq/ft training facility. The facility would be weather rated to withstand a Category 4 hurricane. He also requests to purchase the adjoining parcel of property (40 acres) for approximately \$400,000. The current owner has agreed to subdivide 40 acres for the Sheriff's facility from his 300-acre parcel. It would be used to build a driving pad, the PAT Course (physical agility testing), and prevent future encroachment to the range. Also, the purchase of lead trap systems to collect the lead used from firing. This would eliminate the need to dig up the shooting berms each year to reclaim the used lead. Cost would be approximately \$250,000-\$300,000. Mr. Kisela explained this would be a "pay as you go" project. Commissioner Boyles

wholeheartedly supports this project and encourages the municipalities to use this facility.

Mr. Buhrow made a motion to bring the Sheriff's Training Facility project in the amount of \$2,400,000 before the Board of County Commissioners with a recommendation for approval. Second by Mr. Turpin. Motion approved 5-0.

Sheriff Ashley then discussed other projects, such as school safety, fleet improvement, building a new evidence storage facility, K-9 and bomb threat improvements, and HAZMAT response improvements. Mr. Hofstad made the recommendation to give the committee time to digest these projects and they will be discussed in further detail at a later date.

Discussion on Needed Projects List

Mr. Autrey passed out a list of ready to go projects. Projects discussed were:

1. 6th Avenue Area (Port Dixie) Stormwater Enhancements (\$622,000).
2. Beachview Drive Drainage Improvements(\$456,000).
3. Commons Drive Improvements (\$400,000).
4. John King Widening & Intersection Improvements (\$100,000 for initial design) that will be tasked out to a consultant with an expected 50% participation by the State of Florida.
5. Santa Rosa Boulevard Stormwater & Roadway Improvements, which is being tasked out to a consultant, (\$280,000).
6. Standish Court Stormwater Enhancements, which the State has allocated approximately \$400,000 to the project and our share will be approximately \$400,000.
7. Crestview Southwest Bypass which is going to be completed in phases, therefore unique from the other projects.
8. Redwood Avenue & John Sims Parkway Intersection Improvements, which is a 2-piece project, intersection and sidewalks, (\$350,000).

A handout discussing the Emergency Services Communications Equipment project was also handed out, but discussion will take place at a later date.

Mr. Turpin made a motion to bring these projects before the Board, not to exceed an amount of \$2,608,000, with a recommendation of approval. Second by Mr. Buhrow. Motion approved 5-0.

Mr. Hofstad stated that these items would be brought before the Board at the February 5, 2019 Regular BCC Meeting.

The date of the next meeting for this committee was agreed upon to be Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 10:00 AM. Location will be in current location if available.

Public Comments

Mr. Dave Skarzynski asked if the projects were going to be separated into either stormwater or road? Mr. Autrey replied that none of these projects discussed fall into that category, but in the future, they would be separated into specifically stormwater or road. Mr. Peacock stated that the Clerk's Office is working through the funding structure to track and anticipated approximately \$9,000,000 this year in revenue from the surtax.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

(These minutes were transcribed by Grant Dugre)