

APRIL 11, 2011

A Workshop Meeting of the Board of Lee County Commissioners sitting as the Board Management and Planning Committee was held on this date with the following Commissioners present:

Frank B. Mann, Chairman  
 John E. Manning, Vice Chairman  
 A. Brian Bigelow  
 Ray Judah  
 Tammara Hall

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6, CARRIED OVER FROM THE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING MEETING OF APRIL 4, 2011, WAS HEARD AT THIS TIME.

### CARRY-OVER ITEM 6. BUDGET STATUS UPDATE

#### **Discussion of six month results and preliminary recommendations from the Finance & Taxation Committee.**

Assistant County Manager Pete Winton referenced a March 11 memorandum (copy on file in the Minutes office) with an initial set of six (6) budget recommendations from the Finance & Taxation Committee, comprised of county staff, constitutional offices and community representatives. Mr. Winton advised that two of the citizen Committee members, Jim Mitchell and Bill Williams, were present as well. Commissioner Judah briefly left the Chambers prior to Mr. Winton's review of the initial six recommendations covered in the Memorandum. Discussion ensued on each recommendation, and Mr. Winton and Deputy County Attorney Andrea Fraser responded to questions throughout the presentation. There was Board consensus to support five of the six recommendations, with the exception being the use of Conservation 20/20 funds. Attorney Fraser agreed to provide a draft amended Ordinance to comply with the recommendation to transfer certain regional park systems into the county land stewardship program.

### 1. HEALTH PLAN STRATEGY

#### **Present status of three year health plan strategy.**

Human Resources Manager Christine Brady addressed a reduced shortfall of health care costs for this fiscal year, and introduced Senior Vice President James Powell, of Willis of Florida, Inc, the County's consultant for its health care plan. Mr. Powell narrated a PowerPoint presentation on the strategy being pursued, advised that an RFP would be going out in the next 4-6 weeks, and noted an aggregate option would be available at the direction of the Board. Mr. Powell indicated a decision would be requested in August for the next plan year, and he and Ms. Brady responded to Board questions throughout the dialogue and at the conclusion of the presentation, with Commissioner Hall briefly leaving the Chambers during the presentation.

### 2. NUMERIC NUTRIENT CRITERIA UPDATE

**Inform Board of recent efforts in establishing Numeric Nutrient Criteria (NNC) and Site Specific Alternative Criteria (SSAC) by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and on-going Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)/Basin Management Action Plan (BMAPs) for Impaired Waters by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). Lee County is a major stakeholder and will be required to meet water quality standards for their water bodies by adopting programs and projects to achieve necessary pollutant removal. Costs are significant and long-term and therefore it's imperative that the best science is applied so problem areas are properly identified for Plan of Action.**

#### OPTIONS:

To be discussed.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Continue participation as a stakeholder and provide technical analysis based on local conditions. Provide Board update as milestones and specifics become available including any policy endorsements necessary on behalf of Lee County.

Natural Resources Director Roland Ottolini provided a [PowerPoint update](#) on the EPA and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting in the DEP and TMDL water quality initiatives along with a priority action plan. Mr. Ottolini advised of a meeting at the South Florida Water Management District tomorrow on the tidal Caloosahatchee tributaries, and he, Attorney John Fumero and Deputy County Attorney Andrea Fraser responded to Board questions and comments. Brief discussion ensued on the innumerable economic impacts of not imposing numeric nutrient criteria while looking at this from a site specific and purely scientific standpoint. Commissioner Manning left the meeting briefly during the discussion. Mr. Ottolini concluded by affirming that there will be budget implications proposed for this coming fiscal year that would escalate in future years, and addressed the question of a storm water utility assessment.

### **3. CURRENT STATUS OF THE CONSERVATION 20/20 PROGRAM (LAND ACQUISITION)**

**County staff has completed negotiations on 16 properties authorized by the Board on March 17, 2009 to be pursued for purchase. Of the 16 properties, seven have been purchased, with one remaining purchase to be considered on April 19<sup>th</sup>. During the past two years, the Board has directed staff and its Conservation Lands Acquisition and Stewardship Advisory Committee (CLASAC) to continue to review any new nominations received and to provide the Board with recommendations on whether or not to pursue further acquisitions.**

#### OPTIONS:

Presentation of B-list properties.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Staff and CLASAC recommend pursuing the acquisition of all 24 properties concurrently in order to take advantage of the competitive edge of a healthy supply with limited funding. Staff is of the opinion that all properties, with the exception of two, can be acquired in a single closing each. The larger parcels (Nominations #457 and #474) would require an over several years purchase buy-down plan, subject to available funding. Staff will seek additional contributors to participate in some of the purchases as well.

County Lands Director Karen Maguire provided a condensed [PowerPoint presentation](#) and recapped a [B-List of 24 Potential Conservation 20/20 Properties](#) as identified by staff and CLASAC for potential purchase. Ms. Maguire affirmed that funds were available to pursue the recommendation to purchase all of the parcels, except the first two larger tracts that would require more complex financing arrangements. Following lengthy discussion of the various purchase options, and input by Assistant County Manager Pete Winton on anticipated fund additions, there was Board consensus to proceed with appraisals of all 24 properties for concurrent negotiations.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

ATTEST:  
CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK

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Deputy Clerk

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[Chairman, Lee County Commission](#)