

JANUARY 10, 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
A. Brian Bigelow
Ray Judah
Tammara Hall

COMMISSIONER JOHN E. MANNING WAS ABSENT FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING DUE TO ILLNESS.

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

1. STATUS UPDATE ON THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN EVALUATION AND APPRAISAL REPORT (EAR)

The State requires a review of the Comprehensive Plan every 7 years. The County retained a consultant to assist with this review because, in addition to the standard items, new issues now must be addressed pursuant to recent State legislation. The EAR document is tentatively scheduled to be reviewed in late January by the Local Planning Agency (LPA), then will be scheduled for the Board meeting in February 2011 for additional discussion before being transmitted to the State. After Department of Community Affairs (DCA) review and approval, the County will begin the process of preparing the actual plan amendments.

OPTIONS:

Informational presentation only.

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

Community Development Principal Planner Kathie Ebaugh provided a progress update, utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, on the Comprehensive Plan EAR process prior to the Plan's adoption and transmittal to the Department of Community Affairs. Chief Assistant County Attorney Donna Marie Collins and Ms. Ebaugh responded to questions and comments by Commissioner Hall, and Ms. Ebaugh concluded her update by requesting direction from the Board on moving forward as they finalize the draft Plan that will be available on January 14. Commissioner Hall expressed appreciation to the staff for their inclusive efforts with various departments and supported more predictability within the Codes. Ms. Ebaugh outlined the review steps and Commissioner Hall recommended that two Board review hearings be scheduled following receipt of the review recommendations by the Local Planning Agency (LPA). Ms. Ebaugh agreed to coordinate the two requested hearing dates.

2. TRANSIT SERVICE LEVELS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE

At the 2010 Budget Public Hearing, staff received direction to present ideas on establishing a dedicated funding source to provide transit in Lee County. Also, the Board had chosen not to approve the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) request to fund a Transit Authority Action Plan until alternative plans could be discussed.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Consider developing a community-based Committee to address transit needs and recommendations on the establishment of a dedicated funding source. The Committee would include a coalition of community partners, including representatives from private industry, health and social services, the education community and business groups to formulate recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. The Committee could be modeled after a Transit Advisory Committee, serving initially in an ad hoc, temporary, focused form to provide needed input on a viable source of dedicated funds to implement the planning efforts of the Long Range Transportation Plan, the Transit Development Plan and other appropriate levels of transit services in Lee County. A work plan and proposed

Committee timeline is provided for additional information. Funding Source would be determined and presented with Committee recommendations.

- 2) Continue with annual service level recommendations to current transit system.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Option 1).

Transit Director Steve Myers provided a Transit update and referenced a Board-directed [2011 Work Plan](#) as an introduction for an envisioned Special Advisory Group. Mr. Myers outlined objectives, potential structure for an Advisory Group, and a timeline for deliverables. Commissioner Judah commended Mr. Myers’ and staff’s efforts. Discussion ensued on identification of funding mechanisms, including partnerships, to move forward. There was Board consensus, and agreement by County Manager Karen Hawes and Mr. Myers, to begin the development of a community-based Task Force approach.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

ATTEST:
CHARLIE GREEN, CLERK

Deputy Clerk

[Chairman, Lee County Commission](#)