

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**March 20, 2009**

A meeting was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

Members present were: Chairman Duffy, Commissioner Loftus, Commissioner Cummings, Commissioner Skidmore, County Administrator Baltz, County Attorney Knowlton, Deputy Clerk Manley. The following members were absent: Commissioner Starr

The meeting was called to order at **1:30 PM** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. REVIEW AD VALOREM FUNDED CAPITAL PROJECTS - KELLY SHOEMAKER and RAY SANDROCK**

Mr. Sandrock said today's focus is on ad valorem funded projects, not transportation or utility projects, which will be done at a later workshop; and indicated there are 29 projects to review and determine delay or elimination as part of the strategy to get to the \$48M shortfall. Mr. Sandrock reviewed Reduction Summary - from Department Budget Workshops slide reflecting results from the previous Public Safety workshop; indicated that the goal is a \$10M reduction from departmental budgets; that of the \$8.8M savings that came from Public Safety, \$2.8M is directed from the General Revenues/Ad Valorem, and \$6M from Other Funds; and that a running tally would be given as we go through each workshop.

Mr. Sandrock explained the Current Budget Distribution pie chart on slide 3 shows the total County budget and emphasis on the capital outlay; and indicated that for the last few years Charlotte County has heavily been in the infrastructure business. Mr. Sandrock reviewed the funding sources by our total CIP graph on slide 4 and explained what each represents; and advised that today's focus is on the Ad Valorem-Capital Projects Fund shown in the red portion of the graph.

**Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if the \$62M reflected for gasoline tax represented the revenue received back from gasoline

tax. Mr. Sandrock replied affirmatively; indicated that is what is currently in the fund for future projects, received over a period of years; advised that all gasoline tax collected goes to Tallahassee; and explained the method those revenues are returned to the County. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if everything on the chart is to scale as to time periods. Mr. Sandrock said there could be different time periods depending on when projects are implemented. **Chairman Duffy** asked if the revenue generated by the methane gas project was part of the Landfill Service/User portion of the graph. Mr. Thomson replied negatively; indicated there would be no capital expenditure by the County for that project; and estimated there would be a half million dollars revenue in the FY 09/10 budget year, which would be seen in the Environmental and Extension Services budget rather than the CIP budget.

Mr. Sandrock indicated the Capital Project Millage rate is 1.2654 and is one of three countywide millage rates everyone in the County pays into; that projected revenues this year is \$23.9M; that \$5M would potentially be lost from this fund with the anticipated 20% devaluation; and reviewed types of projects funded in the past. Mr. Sandrock stated the approach is to focus on FY08/09 and FY09/10 and make recommendations to categorize projects into projects eliminated, projects delayed, and projects continued. Mr. Sandrock advised that budgeted funds for projects eliminated or delayed would be placed in a reserve and re-directed to the General Fund or Public Safety Fund to fund operations for next year; and pointed out this is a one-time saving rather than an on-going savings.

Mr. Sandrock stated that projects moved out of the CIP for FY 08/09, delayed, and re-directed is with the idea that the projects could be possibly re-engineered differently to save money; that the delay period would be from one to four years; pointed out that throughout the presentation the term "as needed" would be used; that in many categories suggestions of delay or elimination would be made; but requested a caveat if they uncover a safety issue they can come back for to move money from reserves to handle the problems.

Mr. Sandrock explained that in considering projects to be continued strongest consideration would be given to those that are currently in construction, have safety or ADA (American

Disabilities Act) issues, or are concurrency related; stated that the amount to be re-directed is the \$10M anticipated revenue shortfall; and commented on the secondary goal of paying for the jail expansion with existing cash. **Commissioner Cummings** inquired where revenue would come from. Mr. Sandrock stated the revenue would come from projects that were delayed or eliminated; that the funds were put in the fiscal stabilization reserve and not yet re-directed because there were more delays and eliminations than was needed to fund operations.

Mr. Sandrock explained that key points of 29 projects would be reviewed; and that staff seeks Board agreement with staff recommendation to each project or other direction.

Kelly Shoemaker explained that some of the projects in the presentation for which delay would be recommended, such as the Bunk House, Hickory House, and Cookie House, are deemed historical preservation; that there will be outcry that these properties would be jeopardized by the delay; that we understand and are aware of the difficulties; but that where the County stands economically the recommendation needed to be made.

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendations for item #1, Placida Fishing Pier/Placida Park Area, slide #12; provided a brief background and commented on why staff made the recommendations listed. Ms. Shoemaker pointed out that we are working with one of the local Rotary Clubs on the \$20,000 design project of the Rotary Centennial Park; that the current recommendation is for delay; but that staff wants to keep this on the list and come back to it at a future date.

**Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if input had been requested from the Placida Rotary. Ms. Shoemaker stated they were advised of the possible delay but were also advised it is still on the list and that we have not lost track of it. **Commissioner Skidmore** stated the Bunk House was on our Federal wish list; inquired if that money is target-specific; and if so, and it becomes available, would this project then be put back on the line. Ms. Shoemaker advised the money is target-specific and the project would be brought back to the Board. **Commissioner Skidmore** requested clarification that on the \$246,000 elimination recommendation for FY09/10 ad valorem dollars is being replaced with impact fee dollars. Ms. Shoemaker replied affirmatively.

**Commissioner Skidmore** requested clarification that impact fee dollars are to pay for future growth; that one of the top goals is to meet concurrency; asked what Growth Management's recommendation on the issue; and how the Fishing Pier and park area would help meet concurrency over road infrastructure. Mr. Sandrock stated that as we go through the CIP process each year Growth Management works closely with every department to monitor projects and be certain they are in line to meet concurrency, but it is separate and apart from any road concurrency issue; that impact fees for Parks and Recreation must be used in that category and impact fees for roads must be dedicated to roads; and pointed out they are collected and used regionally by West County, Mid County, and South County. **Commissioner Skidmore** requested clarification that none of the park impact fees can be used for Operations and Maintenance (O & M) on the Oyster Creek Regional Park. Ms. Shoemaker replied affirmatively; and indicated impact fees could be used for new construction or expansion.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$206,000 - PRESERVATION OF PLACIDA BUNK HOUSE - \$186,000 AND DESIGN - ROTARY CENTENNIAL PARK - \$20,000, AND FOR FY09/10 TO ELIMINATE \$246,000 - PREVIOUSLY FUNDED BY AD VALOREM - WILL NOW USE IMPACT FEES, FOR SLIDE 12, ITEM #1 - PLACIDA FISHING PIER/PLACIDA PARK AREA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE. MOTION CARRIED 3:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Mr. Sandrock advised that many projects in the CIP, such as item #2, are ongoing projects where activity is done over a series of years or locations added every year; that when recommendation is made to delay at some point down the road we will bring them back to put on a schedule; and reviewed staff recommendation for slide 13, item #2 - Lighting at Facilities, Walkways, and Parking.

**Commissioner Loftus** opined LED lighting should be utilized as much as possible for efficiency. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if the budget for these projects would be eliminated. Mr. Sandrock replied affirmatively; indicated if all recommendations are approved we should end up with more than \$10M; that there would be a separate reserve; and if there is any project element with concerns or safety issues staff could come back to the Board and request that money be moved from reserve to address the issue.

**Commissioner Skidmore** requested clarification from County Legal that the ADA issue does not increase the County's risk exposure; and questioned the logic of taking away adequate lighting at the Harold Avenue Park. **Chairman Duffy** pointed out there is adequate lighting at the park and that this is for improved lighting. Attorney Knowlton explained there is an ADA transition plan in effect that we are still working on, but which has not been completed; that the transition plan for ADA compliance should have completed in 1995; that funding is being stretched out but not eliminated; that it is a calculated risk and there is a possibility of opening yourself up for liability should someone sue the County. David Milligan provided detail of the location; indicated it is not for ADA improvement itself, but for lighting from the ADA parking to the Harold Avenue Park recreation building; stated there is some ambient lighting but the recommendation was made for safety reasons of getting from the parking lot to the building; that there have been no incidents; but complaints of lighting levels have been received.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$144,000 - SOLAR LIGHTING AT CEDAR POINT PARK DRIVEWAY AND PARKING AND FY09/10 TO DELAY \$200,000 - HAROLD AVENUE WALKWAY LIGHTING FROM SOFTBALL COMPLEX TO PARKING LOT AND ADA PARKING AT RECREATION CENTER FOR SLIDE 13, ITEM #2 - LIGHTING AT FACILITIES, WALKWAYS, AND PARKING, SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN DUFFY.**

**Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if staff had looked at cost savings of going with the existing lighting versus solar lighting. Mr. Milligan explained the entire Harold Avenue project included lighting from the parking lot to the softball and baseball concession building; that once the sports lights go out there is no ambient lighting back in the ball field areas; that this is to enhance the lighting for pedestrians to get from the sports complex to the parking; and that since design of the project has not begun the amount of lighting needed and operational implications are not yet known. **Chairman Duffy** opined staff must be comfortable this can be done safely since they are making the recommendation to delay. Ms. Shoemaker explained it is a continuation of what currently exists and staff is comfortable in recommending delay and it staying on the list for the future. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked for comments

for Legal. Attorney Knowlton said the County has the same liability it currently has.

Mr. Baltz explained items would not appear on our CIPs if somewhere in the past there had not been deliberation and justification of merit identified; and that in going through analysis of balancing what we want to do staff has tried to be wise and judicious with the recommendations, applying a strong element of needs versus wants; that we had a goal in mind to find multiple millions of dollars in reductions to the budget; but that these are items that at some time in our past were identified as having merit; and that the recommendations have not been made without deliberation having gone into them. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if when we weighed CIP projects if we also weighed how the increased revenue may offset the delay. Mr. Baltz stated that in going through the recommendations staff attempted to keep in mind there are mandates and obligations to bring revenues in and was part of staffs considerations; and opined that recommendations seen today would not retard the ability to raise the revenues talked about.

**MOTION FAILED 2:2.**

**Commissioner Skidmore** stated he needs to hear more on the ADA liability before voting on this item and requested that staff work further with the County Attorney's office.

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 14, item #3 - Harold Avenue Recreatio Center. **Commissioner Skidmore** said he would like to hear more about the projects. Mr. Milligan indicated the gym walls have severally deteriorated, are a constant maintenance item, and is currently out to bid; that the air conditioners should have been replaced in 2004 and we are at the end of our ability to maintain them; that we recommend replacement at this time to avoid difficulties of going out to bid if the air conditioners go out during the summer. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked how the estimate figures were arrived at. Mr. Milligan stated the \$90,000 for A/C replacement is an estimate from the Facilities Management Department and the \$45,000 for wall insulation is an estimate based on the project done at Tringali a few years ago and adding a little contingency.

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$100,000 FOR THE GYM FLOOR REPAIR ON SLIDE 14, ITEM #3 - HAROLD AVENUE RECREATION CENTER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO DENY FY08/09 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONTINUE \$45,000 FOR WALL INSULATION AND \$90,000 FOR A/C REPLACEMENT ON SLIDE 14, ITEM #3 - HAROLD AVENUE RECREATION CENTER, WITH DIRECTION TO STAFF TO COME BACK WITH BETTER NUMBERS AND RESEARCH ON THE WALL INSULATION, A/C REPLACEMENT, AND THE HVAC, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS.

Chairman Duffy inquired if staff had spoken to anyone at the School Board about other things that may be out there since they are currently putting in new gyms. Mr. Milligan said no because they thought this was a retrofit of an existing situation; that we are just covering the existing insulation, retaining the insulation value, and working with the structural system we have in place. Commissioner Loftus pointed out there has been an ongoing maintenance cost to maintain the insulation the way it is now. Mr. Milligan replied affirmatively; and indicated it would eventually be so torn up it would require replacement. Commissioner Skidmore said we need to see backup material on these type things and that he would not vote in favor without a full understanding.

**MOTION CARRIED 3:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

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Attorney Knowlton inquired if the Commissioners want to go back to item #2-Lighting at Facilities, Walkways, and Parkways and take a separate vote on staff recommendation to delay \$144,000 solar lighting at Cedar Point Park driveway and parking; and indicated that Legal would work with Parks and Recreation and Risk Management on the Harold Avenue walkway lighting from the softball complex to the parking lot and ADA parking at Recreation center issue.

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$144,000 - SOLAR LIGHTING AT CEDAR POINT PARK DRIVEWAY AND PARKING AND TO NOT ACCEPT STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR

FY09/10 TO DELAY \$200,000 FOR HAROLD AVENUE WALKWAY LIGHTING FROM SOFTBALL COMPLEX TO PARKING LOT AND ADA PARKING AT RECREATION CENTER, AND DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH COUNTY LEGAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT FOR MORE INFORMATION FOR SLIDE 13, ITEM #2 - LIGHTING AT FACILITIES, WALKWAYS, AND PARKING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 3:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 15, item #4 - Port Charlotte Beach Complex; stated the pool was constructed in 1972; commented on work included in the \$175,000 being considered; and requested Board discussion if closure would be an option rather than making major expenditures due to the age and condition of the pool. **Chairman Duffy** requested clarification that \$110,000 is needed to patch where needed in some places, rather than the \$220,000 that was budgeted this year to completely re-do the fishing pier element of the project. Mr. Sandrock relied affirmatively; and indicated recommendation today is to continue fixing as we go along. **Commissioner Skidmore** clarified the amount needed is \$110,000 for on-going repair or \$220,000 to replace. Ms. Shoemaker advised that repairs needed are at the fishing pier itself, not the boardwalk in front of the recreation center; detailed what needs replacing; stated that staff believes at this time \$110,000 would make a big dent to those repairs; but at this time she cannot say if they will have to come back to the Board mid-way through the year to do something additional. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if it was possible to shift from ad valorem funds to impact fee funds. Mr. Sandrock replied negatively because it would not be an expansion or new element of the project.

**Commissioner Skidmore** asked where the numbers came from. Mr. Milligan explained the numbers came from historical bids from the many deck repairs and replacements done in the past. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if it makes sense to the other Commissioners to not give \$110,000 and go out for request for estimates to see if we could get a better price and what it would actually cost.

**Commissioner Loftus** said we must have some type of revenue source before going out for bid; and explained the bidding process in more detail. **Chairman Duffy** shared **Commissioner**

**Skidmore's** concerns. Ms. Shoemaker said an exact price could be obtained if the Board wishes. **Commissioner Skidmore** expressed concern of accepting recommendations based on guesses. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked about the pool usage. Ms. Shoemaker said it is one of the smaller pools, holds 40 people, but is the only pool available in Mid-County. **Chairman Duffy** stated there are many people who use the pool. **Commissioner Skidmore** agreed, said he would not want to close the pool, and asked that staff get the Board usage numbers by next week.

**Commissioner Skidmore** asked where the \$175,000 figure for pool repair came from. Mr. Milligan explained that is more difficult to estimate because we have not had engineering yet; and commented on the manner a project typically transpires. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if there is a better way to do this. Andrew Baker stated there is a much better way to do it but we cannot do it because we are a public entity. Mr. Milligan commented on the damages shown on slide 16; advised we are trying to stop problems before they become emergency situations; and indicated there is insufficient retainage around the perimeter of the pool and a temporary chain link fence, and they want to re-construct the edge wall and deck so it is secure against the edge of the pool and install a safer fence.

Mr. Milligan pointed out undermining that has occurred to the slab foundation of the recreation building due to lack of protection on the seaward side of the building when it was built; and indicated that needs to be re-enforced before the slab is lost. **Commissioner Skidmore** said this is the type situation where he would like to see an ad hoc advisory committee to determine if there is a better way to correct problems at hand. Mr. Milligan explained we are dealing with a thirty seven year old facility that has been improved a couple times and we are playing catch up of fixing it as we go along to a point where maintenance can be reduced. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if the pool estimate could come in significantly higher. Mr. Milligan said this is his best estimate based on thirty years experience without actual engineering plans, but is a scientific guess at this time; and indicated the cost for engineering plans would be \$15,000-\$20,000. **Chairman Duffy** opined it was possible that a local engineer would give the County some advice on this issue with no charge.

Mr. Sandrock explained the concept today is not to give authority to go out and spend \$100,000, but to preserve some funds in the budget to address elements of projects; that our goal always will be to go out and bid, try to get the lowest price, and minimize cost; that it would not be an appropriate recommendation by staff to delay the entire amount for re-decking; that the recommendation is to leave an element in the budget and we will come back with additional information to approve a bid for work to be done.

**Commissioner Cummings** questioned if this was for next year's budget; and indicated that next year's budget cannot be spent until it has been approved by the Board. Mr. Sandrock advised this addresses two years by asking the Board to take an action on the current year's budget and showing next year's budget, which is not the formal annual budget but part of the approved CIP, to just give direction that when we come forward with the CIP that these elements will be included. **Commissioner Cummings** clarified that this is already in this year's budget; that staff bringing it to the Board at all is an indication that staff is looking for a way to save money to roll over into next year; and that had staff not brought it forward it would not be before the Board at all. Mr. Sandrock replied affirmatively. **Commissioner Cummings** commented on requirements of public records; indicated there is no way to separate contractors from the public; and that everyone knows our prices; stated that upon direction staff would bid out everything that comes before the Board; but opined to do so would drive the cost of administration through the roof, increasing bureaucracy and decreasing efficiency.

**Chairman Duffy** stated the Board needs to know as much as possible in order to make sound decisions, including how conclusions were arrived at; pointed out that because of many requirements government does things differently than in the private sector; and that one of our goals is to increase efficiency and reduce expenses. **Commissioner Skidmore** said it is frustrating for the Board to have recommendations brought forward with no good information on how the figures were arrived at or if there are ways to earmark future revenues for repairs; and that he wants to be aware of all information available to determine if there is something that neither side has thought of.

**Commissioner Cummings** said it appears **Commissioner Skidmore** is asking for an analysis focusing on what would minimize the long term cost and maximize efficiency. **Commissioner Skidmore** replied affirmatively. **Commissioner Cummings** stated if that is the wish of the Board that direction should be given rather than direction that has been given because that is not the basis for these recommendations. **Chairman Duffy** commented on her questioning the cost of \$700,000 for the pier and the entire deck; and indicated that had she not questioned that cost \$700,000 would be spent rather than \$110,000. **Commissioner Loftus** explained the \$110,000 is for a completely different project and is narrowed down for repair to the fishing pier.

**Commissioner Cummings** inquired if when there was discussion of doing the complete revamp it was using the same materials. Ms. Shoemaker said it was with recycled material. Mr. Sandrock recalled there was also a lot of structural work. Mr. Milligan stated the structural work needed on the fishing pier was identified by an engineer and what the current objective is based on. **Commissioner Cummings** said when talking about the \$700,000 there was a distinctly different cost for the initial installation, a much longer life span for the materials to be used, a much more substantial project, with a much longer life span than what we will get just patching the boards. Mr. Sandrock stated there are other workshops where no topic has been identified and there are open issues and staff can come back with more detail; but that for today we are bringing budget reductions for delay or elimination which helps for planning purposes. **Commissioner Loftus** asked if the Commissioners were agreeable to advising staff when additional information is needed and have it brought back at the open meetings. (Consensus by the Board.)

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE \$110,000 FOR FISHING PIER RE-DECKING ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS, \$175,000 FOR POOL DECK AND STRUCTURAL REPAIRS TO THE POOL, RECREATION CENTER AND SEA WALL - FOUNDATION PROBLEMS, AND DELAY \$110,000 FOR RE-DECKING, CONTINGENT UPON STAFF FURNISHING INFORMATION REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE FOR SLIDE 15, ITEM #4 - PORT CHARLOTTE BEACH PARK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE. MOTION CARRIED 3:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 17, item #5 - Renovation of Fire Stations. **Chairman Duffy** agreed Station #5 needs a lot of work and is in favor of continuing the outer skin replacement.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE \$80,000 - STATION #5 (PUNTA GORDA) REPLACE RUSTED OUT METAL SKIN OF BUILDING, PAINTING AND ELECTRICAL REPAIR, AND ELIMINATE \$386,000 SLATED FOR OTHER STATION IMPROVEMENTS, WHICH WILL BROUGHT TO THE BOARD ON AN "AS NEEDED" BASIS FOR SLIDE 19, ITEM #5 - RENOVATION OF FIRE STATIONS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE.**

**Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if Station #5 was one of four stations identified in last week's budget workshop for possible closing. Ms. Shoemaker replied it was not.

**MOTION CARRIED 3:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 18, item #6 - Jail Expansion. Mr. Sandrock explained the goal with the interest next year is to not incur those costs if we do not have to borrow. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired about the FY08/09 Budget - \$25,087,000 figure. Mr. Sandrock explained that is current year expenditures, not the entire project cost.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE THE RECENTLY APPROVED ITEM BY THE BOARD AND FY09/10 TO CONTINUE INTEREST ON THE LOAN FOR SLIDE 18, ITEM #6 - JAIL EXPANSION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE. MOTION CARRIED 4:0.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 19, item #7 - Tippecanoe Environmental Park. **Commissioner Loftus** inquired about paving in the parking areas; indicated that unless required we are trying to eliminate as much impervious surface as possible; and expressed concern with the paved parking areas at Oyster Creek Park. Mr. Milligan explained the trails are not paved; but that we are required to make some trails handicap accessible and are attempting to do that through compacted base material that remains a firm and stable surface. **Commissioner Loftus** cautioned on the number of areas where it is placed. **Commissioner Cummings** asked if the material was still permeable

once compacted. Mr. Milligan said not very; but that the percentage of the entire site is not a significant impact on the drainage system. **Chairman Duffy** inquired if this process could be used at the grass parking area of the Stadium. Mr. Milligan said we still hope to grow grass in that area. **Commissioner Skidmore** requested clarification of trail heads. Mr. Milligan explained trail heads are small spaces where an interpretative sign explaining to users what would be seen on the trail would be mounted. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if the signs were consistent countywide. Mr. Milligan replied affirmatively; and explained countywide standards have just been implemented. **Commissioner Skidmore** commented on notation "required for grant" and inquired what the liability was for not doing them. Mr. Milligan stated we would have to go back to the FCT authorities and revise the management plan to push back the implementation of those items. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if we could ask for an extension of the implementation; and if so have we requested extensions on these projects. Mr. Milligan said we have in the past when necessary received extensions; and pointed out that these projects have already had extensions and we are trying to catch up from long overdue improvements.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE \$205,000 FOR BRIDGES, TRAIL HEADS, TRAILS, SIGNAGE AND CANOE/KAYAK LAUNCH (REQUIRED THROUGH OUR FLORIDA COMMUNITIES (FCT) GRANT) AND DELAY \$200,000 FOR OBSERVATION TOWER FOR SLIDE 19, ITEM #7 - TIPPECANOE ENVIRONMENTAL PARK, SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN DUFFY.**

**Commissioner Skidmore** stated he would like staff to request from FCT an additional continuance for these projects due to economic times in order to spread this expenditure over two years. Mr. Milligan explained some trails are in; that \$83,000 of the \$205,000 has already been spent or encumbered; and that \$122,000 is still available. **Commissioner Skidmore** advised he would like to receive all expenditures in the management plan by Monday afternoon.

**MOTION FAILED 2:2.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for FY08/09 to delay \$168,000 for signage/informational kiosks and FY09/10 to eliminate \$67,000 in interest on \$1.57M loan from the landfill-

previously funded by Ad Valorem, which can be switched to impact fees because it is a new park, for slide 20, item #8 - Bayshore Live Oak Park.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$168,000 FOR SIGNAGE/INFORMATIONAL KIOSKS AND FY09/10 ELIMINATE \$67,000 IN INTEREST OF \$1.57M LOAN FROM THE LANDFILL PREVIOUSLY FUNDED BY AD VALOREM, WHICH CAN BE SWITCHED TO IMPACT FEES FOR SLIDE 20, ITEM #8-BAYSHORE LIVE OAK PARK, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE. MOTION CARRIED 3:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

**Commissioner Cummings** noted there is not an over-abundance of park impact fees; and asked if something was being bumped. Mike Koenig advised staff is looking at actual collection versus what projected impact fees were; recognize some projects may have to be scaled back to make the project fit the budget; and agreed that some later project would have a \$67,000 hole.

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 21, item #9 - Various Facilities Improvements. **Commissioner Loftus** inquired if the Family Service Center lighting could be delayed in order to investigate if the use of LED lighting is more appropriate. Mr. Baker stated that all lighting projects could be delayed; that LED lighting is more of a directional type lighting and not useful in every application; and agreed other technologies should be investigated further for major lighting projects. Ms. Shoemaker clarified \$15,000 is to change out the lighting for various facilities, not just the Family Services Center. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if the stucco and sheathing was absolutely necessary; and clarified that grant assistance had been requested on that building. Mr. Baker stated it is leaking inside right now; but indicated an option is to wait for the grant and roll it into the grant money for renovations to the building. Ms. Shoemaker stated the Family Services Center building is part of our federal appropriations request. **Commissioner Skidmore** commented on President Obama's Stimulus Plan and shovel-ready projects to be funded. Ms. Shoemaker advised some state and federal agencies are still drafting their grant programs, have 90 days from February 17, 2009, when President Obama signed the bill into law, to develop their criteria and plan as to what grant programs to use; and that we are not yet able to determine what kind of programs we would be

able to match up. **Commissioner Skidmore** requested clarification that we continue to aggressively pursue stimulus money in place of spending Ad Valorem money; and that possibly there would be amendments on some of the projects being discussed today where Ad Valorem dollars are not used. Ms. Shoemaker said she hopes so.

(**Commissioner Starr** was present for the remainder of the meeting.)

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE \$51,000 (\$22,000 FOR ADA ITEMS RELATED TO THE TRANSITION PLAN FOR ELEMENTS OF WORK AT ENGLEWOOD ANNEX, SOUTH COUNTY ANNEX, AND THE JUSTICE CENTER, AND \$14,000 TO REPLACE EXTERIOR STUCCO AND SHEATHING TO THE ELEVATOR TOWER AT THE FAMILY SERVICES CENTER AND \$15,000 CHANGE OUT T-12 LIGHTING TO EFFICIENT T-8 LIGHT BULBS AT VARIOUS COUNTY FACILITIES), DELAY \$399,000 ONE YEAR ROOF RECOATING OR REPLACEMENT AND ADDRESS ON AS "AS NEEDED BASIS"; AND FY 09/10 TO CONTINUE \$300,000 (UPGRADE ADMINISTRATION CENTER ELEVATOR CONTROLS/MECHANISMS) AND DELAY \$530,000 TO DEAL WITH OTHER ISSUES, WHICH WOULD BE ADDRESSED ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS, FOR SLIDE 21, ITEM #9 - VARIOUS FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS, SECONDED BY CHAIRMAN DUFFY.

**Commissioner Skidmore** asked if \$399,000 for roof recoating is the best recommendation for longevity for the life of the facility. Mr. Baker commented on the countywide roof assessment plan and buildings identified; indicated a significant amount of roof is being patched on a consistent basis; that it does not make sense to delay if looking at a long-term plan; but that the recommendation was made based upon the short-term plan.

Mr. Baker explained the \$399,000 is to recoat several different roofs, which would give additional time; indicated we could continue patching the buildings and come back to the Board when a building must be recoated or reroofed, or on a phase-in; commented on estimates received November 2008; but opined figures would come in less. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if staff could call a roofing company and ask them to send in bids. Ms. Shoemaker explained we must go through a formal process and put out a scope and specifications for the job. **Commissioner Skidmore** questioned the formalities. Attorney Knowlton said

quotes can be obtained but when it comes to doing the job specifications that comply with code is necessary.

**Chairman Duffy** commented on the sales tax projects sent out recently for Placida Road, Edgewater Drive, and sidewalks around the school areas; indicated that the two roads are not so different but the bid specifications on each are very different; expressed concern that many locals are not eligible to apply on the Edgewater project versus the Placida Road project due to specification requirements; and questioned why certain specifications are required on some projects and not on others. Mr. Baker pointed out getting bids and estimates are quite different in the public sector versus the private sector. **Chairman Duffy** opined we must do what we can toward efficiencies but stay within the law.

**Commissioner Skidmore** clarified the buildings that need new roofs are the South County Annex, Englewood Annex, and Health Department building. Mr. Baker indicated the plan is to recoat the roof, not replace, and that we would get another ten year warranty on the roof once it is recoated. **Commissioner Cummings** questioned delay of \$530,000 and dealing with other issues on an as needed basis through reserve transfers. Mr. Sandrock commented on the importance of the "as needed" basis; indicated the Commissioners are being given more control by using part of the funding for operations next year and putting a sizable amount into a reserve for elements; but pointed out we may have to come back to the Board and ask for reserves. Mr. Sandrock stated that in the current mode things are planned in the CIP and come forward to the Board for award; that the new approach is as things are found that must be addressed we will bring it to the Board for permission to do a transfer from reserve; indicated if the Board follows most of today's recommendations it would achieve the \$10M and have \$3M or \$4M reserve to help address these other issues; advised this is not a long-term fix or on-going solution, but a one-time solution; and that many of the elements, especially those related to maintenance, the Board can expect to come back, but in the most efficient way possible. **Commissioner Cummings** commented on anticipating a problem, using the proper bidding process, and making the expenditure before damage is done versus waiting until there is a crisis to deal with.

**Commissioner Starr** opined we should extend the useful life of all our assets or delay repair on them as long as feasible; and opined this is a good way to look at the way we deal with the assets have; that it is judicious and will save us money in the long run; is the way business works; and how the County should work.

**Commissioner Cummings** clarified that Mr. Baker had earlier in the meeting stated the way to minimize expenditures long-term on the roofs was to do the work now and not delay it over the long term. Mr. Baker replied affirmatively, from a maintenance standpoint; pointed out the County owns several hundred million dollars worth of buildings; and to maintain those assets they must be maintained on a regular basis; but that the recommendation are shown due to the extraordinary times we are dealing with. **Commissioner Cummings** asked about favorability of bids coming in. Mr. Baker said it is the best bidding environment he has ever seen.

**MOTION CARRIED 3:2. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS, COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.**

**RECESS: 3:25 PM - 3:40 PM**

Mr. Baltz stated there was frustration expressed with staff estimates for the various projects; indicated it is very common in the way we do our work to give staff estimates on projects based on experience and past projects; and that it would be unusual for staff to actually bid projects out before bringing them to the Board; and indicated the way we procure products and services is laid out in our purchasing manual and purchasing ordinance; that it does not mean we cannot use good common sense in talking with people who have expertise, which is allowed; and indicated that he had requested Purchasing Director Kim Corbett to comment on thresh holds for how we buy things and how we can go out to procure services.

Ms. Corbett reviewed the bid process; commented on staff's reliance on the County ordinance, purchasing manual and State Statute requirements; advised that services requiring an architect, engineer or land surveyor are procured in accordance with a Florida Statute called the Consultant Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA), which requires selection based on

qualifications, not price, are normally over \$50,000, and done through a formal request for proposal (RFP) process. Ms. Corbett stated we have a library of pre-qualified consultants for projects between \$5,000 and \$50,000 where we need someone to do a very quick generic review for us; that those meet CCNA, but it is a much quicker process for the smaller projects. Mr. Baltz stated there is nothing that restricts he or members of staff from drawing upon someone's expertise to ask about what something might cost; but pointed out we try to be careful in asking someone to utilize their expertise pro bono.

Mr. Sandrock explained that the CIP was approved at the final public hearing last September; that we are requesting today to un-approve certain elements of projects and move the funds into a reserve; that we subsequently would bring a change to the CIP ordinance and reduce the CIPs by these amounts; that hopefully \$10M would be transferred to the General Fund for operations and a substantial amount of reserve; and that anything to be spent from the reserve would be brought back to the Board. **Commissioner Skidmore** clarified that if we do not delay today departments that have already had CIPs approved for the current FY08/09 could spend the money because previous Board direction was to spend it. Mr. Sandrock replied affirmatively.

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 22, item #10 - Master Space Plan; stated that as part of the Master Plan the goal over several years is to reduce leasing of outside property; and that some of the relocation funds would be used to move departments that are in County leased space into County facilities. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if purchase of additional property was included in the \$3,898,000 delay; if the transfer is just the Sheriff substation or all of the West County operations; and disagreed with the Sheriff's assessment as to lack of space. Ms. Shoemaker advised that of the amount shown \$3M was for the District I office; and indicated that at one point elimination of the lease with the Clerk of the Court was considered and a couple of the other constitutional officers requested expansion of their space at the West County Annex, and what the \$898,000 represented.

**Commissioner Starr** indicated at this time the Constitutional Officers do not need more space; agreed the Sheriff could use as much space as possible; but that it is not feasible to spend

that much at this time. **Chairman Duffy** agreed with the delay. **Commissioner Skidmore** pointed out this is on the County's Stimulus wish list and may be funded at a later time.

COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE \$200,000 (RELOCATION OF FISCAL CONSOLIDATION AND OTHER CONSOLIDATIONS) AND DELAY \$148,000; AND FOR FY09/10 TO CONTINUE \$300,000 (FURTHER CONSOLIDATIONS AND RENOVATIONS) AND DELAY \$3,898,000 (DELAY DISTRICT I SHERIFF'S SUBSTATION BUILDING PLUS RENOVATIONS TO WEST COUNTY ANNEX) FOR SLIDE 22, ITEM #10 - MASTER SPACE PLAN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 3:2. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS, COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 23, item #11 - Security Upgrades; and indicated that staff feels comfortable we can management these items through our repair and maintenance lines of the departmental cost center.

COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO ELIMINATE \$214,000 9SECURITY UPGRADE TO THE JUSTICE CENTER X-RAY RQUIPMENT; CAMERA UPGRADES A NEEDED) AND FY09/10 TO ELIMINATE \$25,000 FOR SLIDE 23, ITEM #11 - SECURITY UPGRADES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 24, item #12 - Pavement Maintenance; and indicated staff has a list of facilities to be looked at for re-evaluation. **Commissioner Loftus** inquired if they were all County facilities. Ms. Shoemaker replied affirmatively. **Commissioner Starr** inquired if delaying would add to the cost. Mr. Baker explained none of the parking lots are in danger of failing and we could come back to these on an as needed basis. **Commissioner Skidmore** questioned taking advantage of opportunities if paving units are mobilized in any of these areas. Mr. Baker said we have not looked into it, but agreed it makes sense to do so if a company is involved in an adjacent project. Ms. Shoemaker pointed out the first step is re-evaluation to determine if work is really necessary.

COMMISSIONER STARR MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$302,000 - DELAY - EVALUATE AND PRIORITIZE PAVEMENT RESURFACING OR RESEALING NEEDS AND FY09/10 TO DELAY

**\$1,167,000 - DELAY - EVALUATE AND PRIORITIZE PAVEMENT RESURFACING OR RESEALING NEEDS FOR SLIDE 24, ITEM #12 - PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 25, item #13 - Ambulance Replacement; indicated staff has looked at extending the life of these vehicles; and is comfortable in recommending the delay. **Commissioner Loftus** asked how many ambulances are in reserve and how many miles do we get on the ambulances. Fire Chief Dennis Didio stated there are four ambulances in reserve; that the two new ambulances just received are replacing units with 137,000 miles on them; pointed out the reason this recommendation can be made is that we finally caught up in our replacement program and all our units are standardized; indicated if we extend the fire trucks, engines, or rescues after FY10/11 we would have units with high mileage on them. **Commissioner Loftus** clarified that three new stations were added and that would reduce the number of miles on our ambulances. Chief Didio stated the three new fire stations do not have ambulances, but that the new engines are ASL; and indicated efforts are being made to cut back on responses, fuel conservation and other things that will cut back some of the wear and tear. **Commissioner Starr** inquired if closing two stations as discussed would give two backup ambulances. Chief Didio replied affirmatively, if the stations closed are those that have ambulances. Chief Didio confirmed for **Commissioner Skidmore** that there would be no change in the level of service with the recommendations.

**COMMISSIONER STARR MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$408,000 AND FY09/10 TO DELAY \$441,000 FOR SLIDE 25, ITEM #13 - AMBULANCE REPLACEMENT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Mr. Sandrock stated that for slide 26, item #14 - Fishing Piers and Boardwalks staff would like to make different recommendations than what is seen for FY08/09; that after taking a more comprehensive evaluation of all the bridges and piers Park staff has prioritized differently; that the three recommended to be continued this year are GC Herring Bridge at a cost of \$1,500, unsafe conditions, the Ainger Fishing pier

(Ainger Creek Bridge), which runs alongside the Tom Adams Bridge, listed as hazardous conditions, at a cost of \$200,000; and the Cedar Point Lemon Bay Dock, hazardous conditions, at a cost of \$8,500; and that rather than continuing \$400,00 as listed on the power point, the recommendation is to continue \$210,000 and delay \$774,000; and the recommendation for FY09/10 is to delay \$250,000 for other locations. Ms. Shoemaker pointed out the GC Herring Park is one of the parks considered for closure, and that the \$1,500 would not be spent to replace the bridge until it is determined if this park would be closed.

**COMMISSOINER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE \$210,000 (GC HERRING BRIDGE AT A COST OF \$1500, AINGER FISHING PIER (AINGER CREEK BRIDGE), AT A COST OF \$200,000, AND CEDAR POINT LEMON BAY DOCK, AT A COST OF \$8,500) - WILL MONITOR SAFETY AND MAKE NECESSARY REPAIRS AS NEEDED; DELAY \$774,000 - ENGLEWOOD BEACH, AND FY09/10 - DELAY \$250,000 - OTHER LOCATIONS FOR SLIDE 26, ITEM #14, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 27, item #15 - General Development Corporation (GDC) Land Purchase; explained this goes back years where property was given to the County for work that was not completed in various MSBUs as part of an agreement with GDC; that the agreement stated as properties given to the County are used or sold funds must be distributed back to the MSBU's based upon a certain formula; that the total obligation to the MSBU's is \$8.1M and \$2.3M has been distributed to date; and that we have budgeted this amount to make payments annually rather than having a year where there would be a very high payment due to the MSBU's.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE MEETING AGREEMENT WITH MSBU'S FOR \$250,000 FOR FY08/09 AND \$250,000 FY09/10, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 28, item #16 - Small Building repairs and upgrades. **Commissioner Skidmore** clarified that continuing the Englewood Library wall repair is with the assumption of no immediate plans to continue with a West County Regional Library. Ms. Shoemaker replied affirmatively. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if the \$226,000 is a

staff estimate. Mr. Milligan responded; advised that the estimate after construction drawings were received is about \$101,000; that none of the money has been spent; and that contingency was included in the \$101,000. **Commissioner Skidmore** opined it is more prudent to approve \$101,000 and leave the balance in reserves. Ms. Shoemaker agreed, provided the Board understands it may be necessary to come back for additional funds.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO CONTINUE \$101,000 AND DELAY \$115,000 FOR FY08/09 ENGLEWOOD LIBRARY WALL REPAIR, DELAY FY08/09 \$390,000 HISTORICAL BUILDING AT BAYSHORE PARK REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF STRUCTURAL BEAM (FOUNDATION) SIDING, AND DELAY \$100,000 FOR FY09/10 FOR COOKIE HOUSE STABILIZATION FOR SLIDE 28, ITEM #16, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 29, item #17 - Parking and Stormwater Improvements.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE- \$106,000 LOCATIONS: MARACAIBO PARK - STORMWATER SYSTEM UPGRADES - SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (SWFWMD) REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS; AND FY09/10 DELAY - \$250,000, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 30, item #18 - Playground installation and retrofit. **Chairman Duffy** inquired of the status of the Port Charlotte Beach playground. Mr. Milligan explained it was completed about six months ago and has been re-opened.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$246,000 - OYSTER CREEK, AND FY09/10 TO DELAY \$125,000 - REPLACEMENTS FOR SLIDE 30, ITEM #18 - PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION AND RETROFIT, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 31, item #19 - ADA Renovations, which is on the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources side; and indicated staff would recommend to the Board to continue with \$200,000 in the CIP in this project

over a number of years until the ADA transition plan has been completed.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE \$400,000 FOR PRIORITIZED IMPROVEMENTS FROM COUNTY'S ADA TRANSITION PLAN AND BAYSHORE LIVE OAK PARK RESTROOM AND DELAY \$276,000, AND FY09/10 CONTINUE \$200,000 PRIORITIZED IMPROVEMENTS FROM COUNTY'S ADA TRANSITION PLAN FOR SLIDE 31, ITEM #19 - ADA RENOVATIONS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 3:2. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS, COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE OPPOSING.**

**Commissioner Skidmore** opined the Bayshore Live Oak Park restroom issue should be addressed in more detail than just approving another expenditure; and requested that the Board expeditiously be furnished the results of an analysis, including discussions with the Building Department, on why the Board must approve another expenditure. **Commissioner Loftus** agreed.

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 32, item #20 - Sports Lighting - Replace and New Construction. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if delay of \$120,000 at soccer field #4 at the South County Regional Park was for additional lighting or subsequent replacements, if the usage of the facility demands that come on line, what was driving the replacement for delay of \$200,000 and if the number is derived from labor or materials. Mr. Milligan advised it is for new lighting of an unlighted area; that the demand is not that heavy right now and the project could be delayed based on the ability to reschedule around the lighted fields; that this is part of an ongoing process to convert old fashioned, high energy consumption, lights to new green lighting; and that it is about 40% material, 60% labor. **Commissioner Skidmore** opined \$200,000 may not be representative of the actual cost if there are other lighting projects to be done at the same time countywide. Mr. Milligan outlined the long term five-year budget for lighting projects at this complex. Ms. Shoemaker advised what is before the Board is what was planned for the next couple years from a standpoint of new projects to retrofit. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked, if retrofitted today, how long it would take to pay off the actual expense. Mr. Milligan stated he did not have the figures right at hand but would get that information back to **Commissioner Skidmore**.

**Commissioner Starr** said if the expenditure is to save energy consumption, perhaps we should look into a company that makes some other kind of energy-efficient light bulb so we don't have to change out all the fixtures. Mr. Milligan commented on types of light used for sports lighting; indicated that replacing the bulb would not achieve significant savings; but stated they would look into it. **Commissioner Loftus** indicated he would like to know the payback time on the fixtures.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY09/10 TO DELAY \$120,000 - SOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL PARK - SOCCER FIELD #4; AND DELAY \$200,000 - HAROLD AVENUE - BALLFIELD LIGHT REPLACEMENTS FOR SLIDE 32, ITEM #20 - SPORTS LIGHTING - REPLACE AND NEW CONSTRUCTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 33, item #21 - Murdock Village; indicated that staff recommends lowering the \$490,000 at this point; advised that \$57,000 has already been encumbered and spent, which included demolition; that \$50,000 is requested for marketing and \$100,000 for Legal Consultants, or a total of \$210,000; thereby changing the recommendation for "other fees and costs" to continue \$210,000 and delay \$280,000; and that the recommendation to continue for FY09/10 is related only to interest on the loan of \$1,828,000. **Commissioner Skidmore** stated he is opposed to spending another penny on the project; and asked what kind of marketing is involved that has not already been done that staff requires an additional \$50,000.

Debrah Forester explained the \$50,000 could be cut out of the budget now and if the Board wants to go forward with an aggressive marketing campaign we could come back and discuss how that would be funded in the future. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked about marketing done on the property thus far and if it is separate from the \$50,000 request. Ms. Forester advised that the preliminary CD and marketing brochure, which was done primarily in house and updated in house, has been done; and that the monies listed would be to look at another approach such as advertising more aggressively for economic development purposes in industrial type magazines or periodicals if the letters of intent did not come through. **Chairman Duffy** indicated this is

not CIP related and requested the item be postponed. **Commissioner Skidmore** said he wants to hear more about the legal consultant; and indicated he is not in favor of spending any more money on Murdock Village. Mr. Sandrock pointed out there are some requirements related to land settlements through eminent domain.

Paul Payette commented on the eminent domain process and the County's responsibilities under Florida Statutes. Attorney Knowlton stated the \$100,000 is legal consultants and other consultants; indicated that the Board can do away with those; that the recommendation is, whether it is \$100,000 or some other dollar amount, that something be kept there.

Attorney Knowlton indicated that could be done for the \$490,000, but questioned that the Board had a choice for the remaining land settlement portion. Mr. Payette responded to **Commissioner Starr's** request for clarification of the mandates; indicated that we are before the courts at this point in time, that the deposit has been made; and that what occurs in terms of a final settlement occurs in front of a judge and is really beyond the authority of the Board of County Commissioners. **Commissioner Skidmore** opined that even items for which the County is legally bound should come before the BOCC. Mr. Sandrock pointed out that the County is fiscally bound by its financial agreements with Bank of America to pay quarterly interest payment; and indicated this item is a CIP sheet within the Capital Projects Fund. **Commissioner Starr** questioned what is mandated. Mr. Sandrock explained the County must pay the FY08/09 interest; that the loan expires June 30, 2009 and would be re-negotiated; that there would be a different payment due in FY09/10, which would be known after re-negotiation of the loan; and that the current interest rate on the loan is under 1%. **Chairman Duffy** clarified the "other fees and costs" has been lowered to \$210,000. Mr. Sandrock replied affirmatively; and explained that \$57,000 of the \$210,000 had already been encumbered and spent, leaving a balance of \$155,000.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO DENY STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 AND TO NOT CONTINUE SPENDING \$3,289,000 ON MURDOCK VILLAGE; TO NOT SPEND \$1,399,000 ON MURDOCK VILLAGE FOR REMAINING LAND SETTLEMENTS AND BRING ALL THE LAND SETTLEMENTS BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AS THEY ARE COURT**

**ORDERED; TO NOT SPEND \$155,000 FOR OTHER FEES AND COSTS; TO CONTINUE SPENDING AS WE ARE LEGALLY OBLIGATED THE \$1,400,000 IN INTEREST; TO NOT ACCEPT STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY09/10 AND NOT CONTINUE SPENDING \$1,828,000 INTEREST ON A LOAN FOR MURDOCK VILLAGE, SLIDE 33, ITEM #21 - MURDOCK VILLAGE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR.**

**Commissioner Cummings** said he would be interested to see how we can fail to pay interest on our debt. **Chairman Duffy** and **Commissioner Loftus** indicated they could not support the motion at this time, expressing concern of legal responsibilities being fulfilled. Mr. Sandrock clarified that after the loan is re-negotiated and the amount of interest is known it would be placed in next year's CIP proposal and brought before the Board.

**MOTION FAILED 1:3.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 34, item #22 - Health Human Services Building; advised this is the Human Services portion of the building that was to be built on Loveland to partner with the Health Department Building that is on Loveland; that this project was delayed last year so there is no FY08/09 budget; and that staff recommends delay for FY09/10.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY09/10 TO DELAY \$1,640,000 FOR SLIDE 34, ITEM #22 - HEALTH HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR.**

**Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if, at the same time we talk about delaying construction of new buildings, we have looked at a current space analysis to determine if we could relocate some of these offices to existing facilities and eliminate the new construction. Ms. Shoemaker stated we are currently looking at all our space in an effort to determine the best local for staff and eliminate some of the leased space; that the intent for this building was to move staff from the Grace Street location in Punta Gorda and the Cultural Center as a more beneficial "one stop" service facility; but that staff can continue operating at the Grace Street and Cultural Center locations at this time.

**MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 35, item #23 - 911 Renovation; advised that the elements to this project were to replace the entire 911 system and to do some significant improvements to the 911 center located at the Sheriff's Office; that those elements of the CIP have been dropped by the Sheriff; that the system replacement will now be funded by an \$800,000 grant and 911 fees; that the entire \$1,442,000 devoted from ad valorem funds can be eliminated from this project; and that the item will be brought before the Board March 24, 2009 as an agenda item. **Commissioner Skidmore** clarified the project would continue but with a different funding source. Mr. Sandrock replied affirmatively; except that the improvements would not be done as the Sheriff determined that was not a priority right now.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO ELIMINATE \$1,442,000 FOR SLIDE 35, ITEM #23 - 911 RENOVATION, WITH PROJECT TO NOW BE FUNDED BY GRANT AND 911 FEES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 36, item #24 - Toledo Blade Corridor Phase 3; and indicated this was the design related to the roadway going through Murdock Village, which the Board had already formerly directed that the project not be done at this time.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO DELAY \$2,500,000 - FORMER DIRECTIONS BY BCC TO DELAY - RELATED TO MURDOCK VILLAGE PROJECT FOR SLIDE 36, ITEM #24 - TOLEDO BLADE CORRIDOR PHASE 3, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 37, item #25 - Family Services Center; and indicated staff recommend eliminating both and continuing its concentration for federal allocations and grants.

**COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO ELIMINATE \$200,000 AND FY09/10 ELIMINATE \$1,600,000 FOR SLIDE 37, ITEM #25 - FAMILY SERVICES CENTER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 38, item #26 - Public Safety Radio System; and provided a cost breakdown of the project. **Commissioner Skidmore** clarified this is the radio upgrade rather than the replacement program. Ms. Shoemaker stated this is the radio system as opposed to the radio hand-held unit replacements. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if grant funds were available for this project. Chief Didio provided detail on availability for applying for the Assistance to Firefighter Grant; and indicated there is money in that grant only for the controllers. Ms. Shoemaker advised that of the \$2,475,454 project \$296,000 is for the controllers. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked about delaying the project until perimeters of the grant are known. Ms. Shoemaker commented on problems resulting from not having the sixth tower; and indicated that portion of the project could be pulled out and continued or the project could be brought back. **Commissioner Loftus** asked how long the upgrade would last, if it was guaranteed by Motorola, and if it covered all the hand-held radios. Chief Didio stated the upgrade would take us to 2014 and is guaranteed by Motorola; explained this is just for the controllers in the five tower sites; and that the radios were not included and have nothing to do with the upgrade. **(Consensus by the Board to delay item 26 - Public Safety Radio System, slide 38, and direct staff to furnish additional backup information.)**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 39, item #27 - Oyster Creek Underpass Trail; indicated we are in the process of putting in an application for a grant with DEP through its Recreational Trails Program; and that this would be a match to that grant. **Commissioner Skidmore** clarified that we would spend \$100,000 and receive a grant for \$100,000; that the grant had not yet been applied for; and the money not yet spent. Ms. Shoemaker replied affirmatively. **Chairman Duffy** asked if this would go under Placida Road. Mr. Milligan stated this would connect Oyster Creek Park with Cedar Point on opposite sides of the road; and pointed out there is a safety issue with people trying to cross at an unmarked crossing. **Chairman Duffy** questioned the necessity of this project and spending this much money. **Commissioner Cummings** inquired if this matter stemmed from an issue of students getting from Cedar Point to the school. Ms. Shoemaker opined that is where the issue began. **Commissioner Skidmore** asked if the School Board would pay all or

a share of the \$100,000 if the County secured the grant. Ms. Shoemaker advised that conversation has not been had.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO DENY STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY09/10 TO CONTINUE \$100,000 CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAIL AND BOARDWALK TO CONNECT OYSTER CREEK REGIONAL PARK AND CEDAR POINT ENVIRONMENTAL PARK (UNDER 775) - REQUIREMENT FOR GRANT - FOR SLIDE 39, ITEM #27 - OYSTER CREEK UNDERPASS TRAIL; AND DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR A MORE COST EFFECTIVE RESOLUTION FOR FUTURE CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Ms. Shoemaker inquired if the County would be open to a match between the School Board and County 50/50 to go with a grant. **Commissioner Skidmore** said he would rather staff see if the School Board has \$100,000 to pay for this and the County apply for the grant.

Mr. Sandrock reviewed staff recommendation for slide 40, item #28 - Neighborhood Special Purpose Parks; indicated this is tied to community planning; that there are ten locations listed for park development over a number of years; and recommendation is to delay.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO FOR FY09/10 TO DELAY \$1,750,000 FOR SLIDE 40, ITEM #28 - NEIGHBORHOOD AND SPECIAL PURPOSE PARKS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOFTUS. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGDS OPPOSING.**

Ms. Shoemaker reviewed staff recommendation for slide 41, item #29 - Buck Creek Preserve. **Commissioner Skidmore** requested clarification that \$57,000 interest is predicated upon the original loan or the spending; and if the interest payment on the loan changes if the \$350,000 or \$456,000 is not spent today. Mr. Sandrock replied negatively; and explained it is tied to a previous loan for the original purchase. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired about the County's borrowing of funds to get projects done. Mr. Sandrock explained the payment sources for Buck Creek. **Chairman Duffy** recalled Conservation Charlotte paying some funds as well. Mr. Sandrock replied affirmatively. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if ESLOC funds are available for use. Jim Thomson explained that Conservation Charlotte made the last

payment on the property, which is about one-third of the cost of the property; stated that Conservation Charlotte funds are for acquisition only, not capital improvements; and pointed out these improvements are associated with the \$3.4M FCT grant received.

**COMMISSIONER LOFTUS MOVED TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY08/09 TO CONTINUE - \$350,000 TURNING LANE FROM CR775, PARKING LOT, CANOE LAUNCH, RESTROOMS, TRAILS AND OBSERVATION DECK - FCT GRANT REQUIRMENT; ELIMINATE - \$456,000 (SAVINGS FROM ORIGINAL ESTIMATE); AND FOR FY09/10 - CONTINUE - \$57,000 INTEREST ON LOAN. THE MOTION DID NOT RECEIVE A SECOND AND WAS LOST.**

**Chairman Duffy** inquired if the observation deck could be cut out. Mr. Thomson commented on amenities to be put into the facility for which points were scored and the grant application achieved; indicated value engineering would be used on the project; that \$350,000 is an estimate; and actual cost is hoped to be below that. **Commissioner Skidmore** inquired if a turning lane is required and if it is possible to delay the spending and come back with a more firm estimate. Mr. Thomson advised there is a cost savings because the turn lane was eliminated; that we could go back to FCT and request a delay and bring real cost estimates to the Board after value engineering; commented on the timeline established in the management plan with FCT; and stated that \$27,000 has been spent to date.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO DELAY FOR FY08/09 - \$350,000 FOR TURNING LANE FROM CR775, PARKING LOT, CANOE LAUNCH, RESTROOMS, TRAILS AND OBSERVATION DECK - FCT GRANT REQUIREMENT; ALLOW STAFF TIME TO VALUE ENGINEER AND BRING THE BOARD BACK A REAL COST ESTIMATE OF THOSE IMPROVEMENTS; ELIMINATE \$456,000 (SAVINGS FROM ORIGINAL ESTIMATE); AND DELAY FY09/10 - \$57,000 INTEREST ON LOAN; AND DIRECT STAFF TO BRING RECOMMENDATION ON THIS ITEM BACK WHEN STAFF BRINGS THE PROJECT BACK, FOR SLIDE 41 - ITEM #29 - BUCK CREEK PRESERVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR.**

Mr. Sandrock advised we are committed to repay the \$57,000 to the landfill; and pointed out this was brought to the Board and approved with a repayment schedule on a previous agenda item as a loan. **Commissioner Starr** inquired if the \$57,000 interest payment could be brought back to the Board for approval and it

satisfy County payback requirements if approved by the Board. Mr. Sandrock stated it could be included in the 09/10 CIP request. **Chairman Duffy** and **Commissioner Cummings** questioned the purpose of delaying the interest payment.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO DELAY \$350,000 FY 09/09 FOR BUCK CREEK PRESERVE EXPENDITURE; INSTRUCT STAFF TO VALUE ENGINEER; AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION FOR FY09/10 TO CONTINUE PAYING \$57,000 INTEREST ON LOAN FOR SLIDE 41, ITEM #29 - BUCK CREEK PRESERVE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

Mr. Baltz requested clarification of action on item #21 - Murdock Village. **Commissioner Cummings** stated there was no action and whatever the current budget is stands. Attorney Knowlton replied affirmatively; that whatever happened previously remains. Mr. Baltz stated that not spending money on Murdock Village without Board action is clear; that what was recommended at this meeting was not approved; but that there was no follow up action to do anything otherwise. Mr. Baltz stated there was no decision to eliminate \$5,209,546 replacement of radio system for FY08/09 on item #26 - Public Safety Radio System; and inquired how the Board wanted that handled. **Commissioner Skidmore** stated he is not opposed to eliminating the \$5,209,546 because the \$2,476,454 expenditure is not being approved; and indicated he wants to know how much of the grant would cover the expenditure. **Commissioner Starr** agreed.

**COMMISSIONER SKIDMORE MOVED TO ELIMINATE SPENDING OF \$5,209,546 FOR FY08/09 FOR REPLACEMENT OF RADIO SYSTEM; AND TO NOT APPROVE THE CONTINUATION OF SPENDING OF \$2,476,454 FOR FY08/09 TO UPGRADE CONTROLLERS AND NEW TOWER, FOR SLIDE 38, ITEM #26 - PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SYSTEM; AND INSTRUCT STAFF TO IDENTIFY AND EXPLAIN ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE UPGRADED CONTROLLERS AND NEW TOWER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STARR. MOTION CARRIED 4:1. COMMISSIONER CUMMINGS OPPOSING.**

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March 20, 2009

Mr. Sandrock advised the next workshop is Monday, March 23, 2009, and Environmental Services would be reviewed.

ADJOURNED: 5:15 PM

Signature on file in Commission Minutes  
Chairman

ATTEST:

BARBARA T. SCOTT, CLERK  
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND  
EX-OFFICIO TO THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: Signature on file in Commission Minutes  
Deputy Clerk

gm