

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BUDGET REVIEW WORKSHOP

JUNE 4, 2007

A budget review workshop was held at the Murdock Administration Complex in Room B-106, Port Charlotte, Florida. The following members were present: Chairman Loftus and Commissioner Moore. Also in attendance were County Administrator Loucks and Minutes Supervisor Nice. The following members were absent: Commissioner Duffy, Commissioner Cummings, and Commissioner D'Aprile. The meeting was called to order at **8:05 A.M.**

Mr. Sandrock reviewed the agendas for this workshop and the preliminary budget workshop on Friday and informed the Board Members that he will be meeting with them this week to review the power point presentation.

8:00 AM - Charlotte County Utilities (CCU)

Jeff Pearson explained the budget was reduced by 5.6% overall based on cuts and implementation of efficiencies especially in the engineering operations; CCU is an Enterprise Fund that must balance with no ad valorem dollars; and some of the savings have been earmarked increases are anticipated with the Peace River plant expansion and Operations & Maintenance (O&M). **Commissioner Moore** stated he likes the budget and questioned the charts on page 17 on the 90% deal that indicates the loss of 48 positions. Mr. Pearson advised the level of service would be adversely impacted but staff would rally together, find additional efficiencies and automation to reduce manual labor in the field and the office, and some impacts might be significant that would need to be spread throughout the entire department. **Commissioner Moore** questioned the impact of the Peace River expansion on CCU. Mr. Pearson stated his biggest fear is the uncertainty associated with the bids especially on the reservoir; explained the bid on the utility expansion came in \$17+ million over the engineer's estimate; he has not seen the final bid on the reservoir but the engineer's estimate came in at \$9 million over the bid; the County would be on the hook for a large amount

of the total since Charlotte is one of the biggest customers of the Peace River Water Authority; some line items in the Authority's budget are at 40% to 80% and on some line items are over the average over the last three years. Richard Baltz stated whatever the costs on the Peace River expansion are, the master water supply contract had an estimate of \$124 million; Charlotte County has an obligation to pay 27% of the costs; Charlotte and Sarasota Counties are the primary payees; the O&M budget for the Authority has been increasing substantially over the last couple years; and on June 26, 2007 the Authority's budget will be brought to the Board. **Chairman Loftus** questioned the addition of one position to replace Pat Lehmann as engineer on the Authority budget. Mr. Baltz expressed understanding that discussion will take place at the Authority meeting this week on the organizational structure and it is unclear at this juncture that will occur. **Chairman Loftus** questioned **Commissioner Cummings** attendance at the meeting. Mr. Baltz indicated assumption that **Commissioner Cummings** would be attendance. Mr. Pearson pointed out the Authority's budget requests four new positions. Mr. Baltz explained typically the County pays about \$11 million for water from the Authority on an annual basis that is in addition to other costs for about 70% of the Authority's O&M budget. Mr. Loucks commented on the potential to bring back discussion on subsidization on the revenue side. Mr. Pearson indicated the bid opening on the reservoir is scheduled for tomorrow or Wednesday and the plant design has already been awarded and it is under construction. **Commissioner Moore** requested clarification on design changes. Mr. Pearson stated three 2 mgd above ground storage tanks, some concrete structures, one of the filters, and some other items were eliminated. **Commissioner Moore** stated there were significant changes. Mr. Pearson reported about \$8 to \$10 million was shaved off of the \$17.6 million overage. **Commissioner Moore** questioned changes in the Authority's budget process. Mr. Baltz stated the Authority's tentative proposed budget is submitted in late April, staff reviews it for about a month, brings it to the Board with a recommendation and an analysis, there was an Administrator's meeting last week and there is an Authority Board meeting this week during which discussion is anticipated on the cost higher than estimates on the Regional Expansion Program (REP). Mr. Baltz stated Jeff Pearson, Debra Smith, Terry Kesner, and CCU staff review the Authority's budget for comparison with last

year's budget prior to the proposed budget. Mr. Baltz mentioned, even if Charlotte County rejected the Authority's budget, three other members could vote to approve and accept it; and the City of North Port is obligated for about 9%, Desoto County is about 1%, and Sarasota County makes up the remainder after Charlotte County. Mr. Baltz stated at the Administrator's meeting, Sarasota County expressed concerns about the increased O&M costs and advised staff from Sarasota and Charlotte Counties have written correspondence to the Authority requesting answers to concerns. Mr. Loucks reminded the Board the Authority's budget directly impacts CCU's budget. **Chairman Loftus** requested the status of getting people on line for sewer service. Mr. Pearson explained staff went out to the Melbourne area and identified vacant and occupied properties for potential connection, the easement from the developer was obtained, and welcome letters were sent to residents along Melbourne for mandatory connection within one year as well as vacant property owners for connection when a structure is built on the land. **Commissioner Moore** requested the process at the end of the year for individuals who have not connected. Mr. Pearson stated another letter would be sent prior to the end of the year, at the end of the year base fees will be charged, and the fee will be paid even if the home is liened for the amount of the connection fee. **Chairman Loftus** stated some lines already exist in the Charlotte Harbor area. Mr. Pearson advised the Community Development Block Grant of about \$1 million is still available for assistance with connection fees. Ms. Kesner stated a letter was sent notifying property owners of the sewer expansion project with contact information and the criteria is provided once property owners request it. **Chairman Loftus** stated CCU needs to be more aggressive and promote the sewer connections. **Commissioner Moore** opined there are people who will pay the base fee but not connect to sewers. **Chairman Loftus** questioned the Health Department involvement dealing with septics in that area. Mr. Pearson explained CCU notifies the Health Department regarding property owners who have been notified to hookup so septic permits will not be issued. Ms. Kesner advised the Health Department has hard copies of the 600 maps of water and sewer lines that are updated at least once a year. **Commissioner Moore** wondered about Geographic Information System (GIS) updates. Ms. Kesner reported GIS is doing a layering of maps on the intranet exclusive of 911 measures. **Commissioner Moore** questioned

permitting procedures. Ms. Kesner advised owners must identify up front if they will be serviced by central water and sewer through an availability request to CCU or a septic permit from the Health Department. Mr. Loucks stated the Building Industry Oversight Committee (BIOC) met last Friday and there was discussion about more County funding to the Health Department that is being reallocated internally towards the clinical side of the Health Department instead of septic permitting; they will be asking for an increase in permit fees that must be approved by the Board for which justification will be necessary e.g. what funds were diverted and why. Mr. Loucks explained septic permitting procedures and Aerobic Treatment Unit (ATU) review and maintenance process. Mr. Loucks advised central sewer is the best answer. **Chairman Loftus** questioned the status of the Manchester Lock installation and inspection fees. Ms. Shoemaker advised it will be brought back to the Board at the end of June or early July. **Chairman Loftus** commented on the need to expedite customer connections. Mr. Pearson explained development agreements identify line extensions that cross over vacant parcels for reimbursement purposes; the reimbursement to developers, under the new Uniform Extension Policy (UEP), is factored into the budget and CIP for the oversized portion of the line extensions. **Chairman Loftus** requested input from developers about the UEP. Mr. Pearson stated the Windward Preserve in Charlotte Harbor has asked that the new UEP be utilized instead of the old UEP. **Chairman Loftus** stated a lot of e-mails are received about communications. Mr. Pearson stated the level of service of telephone calls to customer service representatives have increased by 40% in the last three months because more people are answering the calls and implementing of new automation. **(Commissioner D'Aprile was present for the remainder of the workshop.)** Mr. Pearson explained the call answering time has been lowered to 30 seconds and the level of service has been increased to 80%; automated options have been revised to be more customer friendly; the website has been updated to provide more information on line; the easy pay system has been improved on line and on the telephone; and CCU has come a long way in customer service improvements. **Chairman Loftus** questioned the on-line GPS service. Mr. Pearson requested the time line for the special data base. Ms. Kesner explained the time line for training and implementation. Mr. Pearson offered to provide the schedule and reported they are on track for this

year. Ms. Shoemaker explained Information Technology (IT) is working with Building Construction Services and more leverage is being used to obtain more information. **Commissioner D'Aprile** expressed concern about 70%, 80%, and 90% cuts with 48 positions eliminated under the 90% plan; right now he is looking to freeze two positions and enhancing three positions to supervisory jobs. **Commissioner D'Aprile** questioned overlapping of positions. Mr. Pearson stated some positions have been identified for cutting e.g. six to ten positions but additional burdens will be placed on other employees. **Commissioner D'Aprile** stated he is not looking to cut positions but the fat from the budget. Mr. Loucks referenced page 8, dealing with the \$4.2 million reduction and an additional \$3.9 million more in reductions. Mr. Loucks explained maintenance and rehabilitative measures have now been implemented. Mr. Pearson stated hydrants have been upgraded e.g. 4000 hydrants are located in the County and the process includes review of each hydrant once every three years; CCU is working with Chief Didio on non-working hydrants that have been repaired and/or replaced. **Commissioner D'Aprile** expressed appreciation for CCU staff's efforts concerning the budget, stated he is not looking to fire people, and CCU needs to be run as a business. Mr. Loucks stated the update received last Friday from Tallahassee is that specific millage rates will be allowed but there will be an opportunity for local over ride. **Commissioner D'Aprile** indicated the State is looking at the wealth of counties. **Commissioner Moore** stated people who own vacant lots are not charged for water and sewer lines and questioned the ability to charge those owners for transmission and collection. Mr. Pearson agreed vacant lot owners do receive a benefit for water and wastewater lines because access is available versus a lot without central water and sewer. **Commissioner Moore** stated a public hearing would be necessary to impose these fees. Mr. Pearson agreed. **Commissioner Moore** commented in support of reviewing these opportunities. Mr. Pearson stated a memorandum will be brought back to the Board on these issues. **Chairman Loftus** concurred and expressed the belief that other utilities charge these fees. Mr. Loucks explained the City of Cape Coral imposes such fees on vacant lots. Mr. Pearson explained everyone shares the costs equally through MSBU assessments. **Commissioner Moore** opined this is not a developer issue since owners along waterways should be hooked up. **Chairman Loftus** stated he does not want to see people fired and suggested cross training. Mr.

Loucks explained Environmental Services and CCU have skill based programs and broad banding e.g. a line tech instead of line techs 2, 3, and 4. **Chairman Loftus** commented on a leakage repair on the side of a condominium. Mr. Pearson commented on the 72-hour notice for repair.

9:00 AM - Economic Development, Tourist Development, and Communications & Marketing,

Betty Williams explained the purpose of Economic Development in conjunction with Tourist Development; outlined the numerous programs implemented to bring higher paying jobs to the County through incentives, reductions in expenditures through cross training and incentives in the office; there are two frozen positions in the budget; and the original budget request has been reduced by \$15,000. Ms. Williams advised staff has been working with Community Development on zoning issues. Mr. Loucks stated the only commercial properties currently available are located adjacent to main roadways but incentive programs are in place for developers. **Chairman Loftus** expressed concern about expediting the US 17 corridor study based on the timeline for changes to the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Loucks offered to provide status information. Ms. Williams stated Community Development is realigning the underlying zoning and land uses which is very important in filing for grant funding. Mr. Loucks commented on the increase in retail and industrial development over the last five years. **Commissioner D'Aprile** commented on the need to complete the Piper Road project. Attorney Daniel Gallagher stated the interlocal agreement with the Airport is in the Public Works Department. Ms. Williams stated the Airport Commerce Park complex will be a tremendous asset. Mr. Loucks pointed out the City of Punta Gorda has not responded on a proactive basis to provide utilities to the Airport Commerce Park area. **Chairman Loftus** suggested bringing the issue up at the next joint meeting. Ms. Williams stated she has spoken with a group on identifying parcels for commercial and industrial use along US 17 e.g. one 300-acre parcel specifically with buffering. **Chairman Loftus** stated it is important to realign the rezoning now for future development.

Becky Bovell summarized the purpose of the Tourism Bureau; the Bureau has been treading water since Hurricane Charley; about 1/3 of lodging units were lost as a result of the hurricane; new marketing programs have been implemented through on-line campaigns to generate new customers and bring back old customers through revitalization of blue ways e.g. redbfish tournament and \$380,000 expenditures; in the near future marketing will be implemented for conferences and meetings at the new Event Center; an increased budget is necessary to accelerate growth and development e.g. travel for selling the Event Center and mitigating the loss of media coverage and amplifying sports development; two sports media events are on line for 2008 and 2009; and the five staff members have implemented efficiencies over the last three year. Mr. Loucks advised three cents of every five cents generated is used for operational expenditures. Ms. Bovell commented on discussions with developers on current and future forecasts of tourism in the County e.g. the last one was a developer for a hotel at Cochran and Veterans Boulevards and City Market Place. **Chairman Loftus** questioned development in Englewood and Charlotte Harbor. Ms. Bovell commented on Dr. Asparilla's efforts regarding Microtel, possibly in Englewood; she has not received any inquiries for hotel development in Charlotte Harbor; and she is trying to find out what is going on with the property on the north side of US 41 on the Charlotte County side of the bridge. **Commissioner D'Aprile** suggested an individual to contact about the parcel; opined the various types of tourists include snow birds or winter visitors; and questioned what draws people to this area. Ms. Bovell explained Charlotte County is a nature habitat with wildlife, boating, and fishing; explained the conversion study showed that 45% people who asked for information came to Charlotte County; and hotel development will increase and then more visitors will come. **Commissioner D'Aprile** commented on booms to the area including the Sports Complex, Event Center, and Murdock Village. **Commissioner D'Aprile** asked where the majority of visitors are from. Ms. Bovell stated Germany and the United Kingdom; European visitors usually come during May through November and a lot of visitors from the United States are from California, the northwest, and north east. **Commissioner D'Aprile** requested an explanation of the increased budget. Ms. Bovell reported increases are due to budget cuts and inactivity over the last three years; the increases are needed to promote tourism and generate increased

inquiries; the number of brochures needed to meet the demand has been increased, the research component, and establishment and implementation of a new website. **Chairman Loftus** asked for the number of hits per month on the website. Ms. Bovell estimated unique site visits are between 12,000 to 15,000. **Commissioner D'Aprile** expressed concern about the \$1 million increase. Mr. Sandrock explained \$900,000 is treated as an expenditure since the funds come in through Tourist Development and transferred out. Mr. Loucks referenced the \$150,000 and \$900,000 on page 1 that is for the Stadium. **Commissioner Moore** questioned the Sports Park funding in 2007. Mr. Loucks recalled two cents were approved for the Sports Parks. Ms. Bovell explained over \$400,000 was generated in 2005/2006. Mr. Sandrock explained the second cent collection started in April 2007 and commented on the potential to collect \$900,000 in 2007/2008. Mr. Loucks advised the monies are not spent until the actual collections are done and only the amount collected may be expended. **Commissioner D'Aprile** requested an explanation of the budget. Mr. Loucks referenced the \$145,000 or 5.4% increase from this year's current budget on page 7; referenced page 3; and explained the expenditures of tourist development monies. **Commissioner Moore** questioned the differences in the budget submitted by the department on pages 5 and 6. Mr. Loucks advised the differences reflect changes made as a result of the administrative review against original submittals from February 2007. Ms. Shoemaker stated salaries and benefits are received from the Budget Office and figures have changed. Mr. Sandrock explained the FRS will be going down but there will be a slight increase in the budget.

RECESS: 9:53 AM - 10:00 AM

Mr. Sandrock announced the \$45,000 reduction for Communications & Marketing. Joyce Ross commented on the two management positions for Kristine Cristina and Matthew Philpit; summarized the purpose of the department and on-line programming, CCTV-20; stated over 60 projects are scheduled in June 2007 including the Charlotte Assembly, numerous events, and marketing for events; explained the major projects on surveys, support for the Comprehensive Plan, etc. were not budgeted last year; commented on the need for flexibility in the budget e.g. recent layoffs from Building Construction Services in conjunction with Human Resources, increased staff time for television programming last week as well

as a recent visit from Congressman Mahoney. Mr. Loucks stated this is one of the few budgets requesting a position increase. Ms. Ross explained the additional position would be in television to handle the increase from three meetings per month in 2005 to 11 meetings televised per month in 2007; and the videographer has been reallocated to televising meetings instead of creating videos for public awareness. **Commissioner Moore** stated the number of meetings have increased without control by the Board e.g. Community Development asked that the mining meetings be televised. Mr. Loucks stated this was done as a result of the Evaluations, Appraisals, and Reports for the Comprehensive Plan and suggested the Board might need to make a policy decision. Mr. Loucks pointed out the Code Enforcement meetings are being televised. **Chairman Loftus** opined a benefit has been realized by the community as a result of video streaming the mining and Code Enforcement meetings. **Commissioner Moore** stated he has received inquiries about the affordability on the level of service the County is trying to provide. Mr. Loucks recalled one of the tasks under Strategic Planning was to have a group of citizens and the Board to prioritize projects and advised this process will start in November 2007, after the impacts are known from Tallahassee. Ms. Ross stated television and streaming video are very popular and projected the Comprehensive Plan Reviews and Planning and Zoning Board meetings will be televised next year; and stated there is room in the budget over the next two years for education from sales tax revenues. **Commissioner D'Aprile** questioned if the entire budget is utilized. Ms. Ross stated even though some events did not take place, monies were reallocated. Mr. Loucks stated access revenues and fees go back into fund balances in the General Fund. Mr. Sandrock stated \$1.2 million from the Tax Collector and \$900,000 from the Clerk of Court. **Commissioner D'Aprile** asked how to make televised meetings more interesting for viewers and suggested each Commissioner answer questions on the air received from the public on an individual basis. Ms. Ross stated the public needs to see Commissioners on a one-to-one basis and this is the highest priority for the new position. **Chairman Loftus** agreed.

10:00 AM - Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources

Mr. Sandrock stated this Department has had more dynamic changes than other departments including frozen positions, prioritizing

projects, and adjustments for revenues. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft enumerated the number of position reductions for public libraries to 8 positions, historical society to two positions, and Parks and Recreation - 50, 8, and 2 positions. Mr. Loucks recalled increases for beaches and life guards and the Event Center. Attorney Gallagher commented on liability issues for beaches and the need for life guards. Laura Kleiss-Hoeff recalled in the latter part of the 1980s and early 1990s, life guards were provided until the time when the Board decided to eliminate them but Florida Supreme Court case law indicates a need to at least provide life guards on a minimal basis. **Commissioner D'Aprile** stated the County might be sued even if the life guard is incompetent and questioned posting signs about the lack of life guards. Attorney Gallagher stated he would speak with Attorney Boksner since he reviewed the case law. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeff stated the County Attorney has recommended hiring life guards. Mr. Loucks commented on the increase necessitated by set ups and take downs for events. **Commissioner Moore** questioned the liability associated with enhancements including parking fees. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft pointed out case law defines improvements and referenced beach improvements made by the City of Miami. Attorney Gallagher suggested the issue be tabled until after he confers with Attorney Boksner. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeff commented on the number of trash cans, restroom facilities, and picnic tables and the necessary supplies for cleaning. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft related the reduction in hours based on a 40-hour work shift and reductions in the level of services in programs for the Historical Center. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft summarized reductions to 4.5 positions, programs, and hours of operation from 51 hours to 40 hours with closure on Thursdays in the Englewood Library; related volunteer contributions at the Libraries are very strong; outlined reductions from 20 to 15.5 positions, programs, and hours of operation from 64 hours to 40 hours with closure on Friday for the Mid-County Regional Library; reductions from 7 to 5.5 positions in the Port Charlotte Library as well as programs and hours of operation from 57 to 40 hours with closure on Wednesday; and reductions from 6 to 5.5 positions, programs and hours of operation from 55 to 40 hours with closure on Tuesday in the Punta Gorda Library. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeff informed the Board about proposed reductions in the Outreach Program since there is only one staff member from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday and reviewed the Analysis of Effect of Materials Budget Increases

on Materials Per Capita which will be decreased even with population growth. **Commissioner Moore** requested justification for constructing a new library in Englewood. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated a new library is necessary to meet community needs, the design is proposed for a two-story 40,000 square foot building, libraries provide computers for access to numerous human services. **Commissioner D'Aprile** stated he cannot justify the expenditure for a new library. Mr. Loucks advised the new updated library would replace the existing library and the bid will be brought to the Board in the next month. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated the existing library is 8,000 square whereas the guidelines based on population requires a 35,000 square feet structure and reported 500,000 people have used libraries over the last six months. **Commissioner D'Aprile** disagreed with the statistical needs and suggested building a 20,000 square feet library. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated these are not new plans; recalled the County fell very behind in library standards; and the libraries were inadequate. **Commissioner D'Aprile** asked for the space breakdown. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated 44,400 square feet including administrative office space. Angelyn Patterson added 37,500 square feet for the public space. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft commented on the State funding that would be eliminated if fees are charged for library cards e.g. \$194,000 from an operating grants subsidy. Mr. Loucks recommended discontinuing library services to Glades County. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated Charlotte County receives the entire \$50,000 grant for administrative services including payroll. **Commissioner D'Aprile** questioned the cost to operate Glades County. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft estimated higher than \$50,000. **Commissioner Moore** requested information on what monies for the new library might be spent on. Mr. Loucks explained the ad valorem expenditures for capital improvement projects. **Commissioner Moore** stated he has a problem with the architect that he needs to address. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft pointed out impact fees are also utilized. Mr. Kleiss-Hoeft reviewed increases in fees and the decrease from the lack of State aid in the amount of \$175,000. Mr. Loucks stated the Board, by a super majority vote, may retain the millage rate. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft advised parks and recreation budgets are separate and reviewed athletic facilities. Mr. Baltz stated these increases represent changes that mean a lot to people in the community. **Commissioner D'Aprile** recalled he used to pay for facilities usage when his kids were growing up. Chairman Loftus agreed and

stated people that use the facilities should pay for them. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft indicated staff has been meeting with various leagues and groups, the usage continues to increase, large investments have been made over the last 10 years, and people want to know about facilities and events for the next 10 years; the County is in the athletic business in a big way; and commented on the over \$2.6 million impact from volunteers which represent significant savings to the County. **Commissioner D'Aprile** stated the County provides the facilities. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft cautioned the Board that the \$1.5 million increase in the Recreation budget is not realistic based on the real impact of laying off Recreation staff compared to resulting in a reduction to revenues of \$500,000; summarized the total Parks staff of 51 and layoffs of Parks staff of 8 full time and 2 part time and 22 full time Maintenance staff; and reviewed levels of services under Modes 1 and 3 standards of maintenance for each park with pictures depicting each mode. Mr. Loucks stated the format is very similar to the Recreation Department. Ms. Kleiff-Hoeft reviewed the revenues, cuts, and comparisons for the four Recreation Centers based on the elimination of special events. **Commissioner D'Aprile** requested the current modes for the Parks. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft stated it depends on the usage as identified in specific park levels of service and averaged at a Mode 2 whereas Lister will be kept at a Mode 6 and Englewood at a Mode 1; a current Mode 3 might go down to a Mode 4; and the Parks Manager has indicated that 31 Parks will see a reduction in levels of service. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft commented on reductions to the Trinagali Center and Skate Park budgets and reviewed the primary increases in the budget. **Chairman Loftus** requested the cost to operate the swimming pools. Mr. Loucks stated the School Board will never take them back and concluded each of the three pools cost about \$300,000 to operate per annum. Ms. Kleiss-Hoeft summarized the New/Enhanced Services by Division chart from 2003 with projections through 2008. Mr. Loucks stated this department is funded by ad valorem except for fees.

11:00 AM - Sheriff (Law Enforcement and Court Budgets)

Sheriff John Davenport stated the budgets were submitted as required by May 1, 2007; during the process, the budgets are reviewed with staff; expressed the belief that the budgets are reasonable; the court side increased by 20% due to three new

judges, law enforcement increased by 8.3% increase, and overall with a 13.5% increase; staffing levels are increasing based on demand and growth; and personnel are present to answer questions. **Chairman Loftus** noted the efforts to work with the Budget staff and the uncertainties of impacts from Tallahassee. Sheriff Davenport commented on the need to ensure public safety and address community problems. **Chairman Loftus** opined as a result of a recent visit to the jail, he noted the condition reflected good maintenance and the over crowding; acknowledged the necessity to comply with unfunded mandates imposed by the State; and suggested considering the same type of bracelets utilized by Sarasota County. Sheriff Davenport stated more people are being arrested for felonies and they need to be incarcerated and the three new judges will expedite the hearing process. **Commissioner Moore** requested an explanation of what will occur if all State prisons are filled up. Sheriff Davenport stated more State prisons are constructed and recalled inmates were released in the early 1990s due to over crowding. Sheriff Davenport stated the five-year plan includes the current jail operations and proposed expansions. Major Rodgers commented on meetings on scheduling the phased development and the impact of delays in hiring that may be achieved based on the final time line. Sheriff Davenport advised staffing is on line for this year for a total in 2007/2008 of 20 civilian and 68 sworn positions. Ms. Shoemaker stated the Guaranteed Market Price (GMP) for Phase 1 is the only one approved by the Board. **Chairman Loftus** expressed concern about the delay in construction and penalties, the Board needs to be kept apprised, and stated this is the first time he has heard about a delay. Major Rodgers advised that penalties were removed from the contract. **Commissioner Moore** commented on the possibility of having to re-evaluate cuts on a County-wide basis. Sheriff Davenport stated the Sheriff's Department will do the best job possible with what the Board provides. **Commissioner D'Aprile** reiterated his intention not to cut jobs and commented on the need to ensure the safety of citizens. Sheriff Davenport commented on the need to make sure the Board Members understand the Sheriff's budgets. **Commissioner D'Aprile** recalled unproductive fights between the Sheriff and previous Boards, noted staff are working as ladies and gentlemen, and recognized all of their efforts. **Chairman Loftus** expressed appreciation

for all of the Sheriff's staff efforts. Sheriff Davenport asked Board Members to call with any questions.

ADJOURNED: 11:57 AM

Chairman

ATTEST:

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

By: _____
Deputy Clerk
djn