

Minutes of the Board of Alligator Point Taxpayers' Association – October 9, 2010

Members or Officers absent: Sam Rogers, John Murphy

Meeting called to order by VP Eddie Sosebee. The minutes of previous meeting were distributed by e-mail. Motion by Feifer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Osborne to accept; motion passed. Treasurer Bill Kimbrough presented report. All bills are paid and on-hand balance is approximately \$37,973. Annual federal registration papers have been submitted. Motion to accept by Osborne, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Feifer; motion passed.

Committee Reports

Beautification – Grass is growing in the Welcome Garden. Need some help in pulling it out, so if you are going by, grab a handful.

Bears getting into trash cans is a major problem for some parts of Alligator Point. Bear proof cans are available from WastePro or the parts to bear-proof your can are available from Ace Hardware in Carrabelle for about \$25. The suggestion was made to spray around the can with ammonia.

A lively discussion of trash and trash pickup ensued. It was suggested that trash cans be required for rental units, or perhaps an ordinance requiring trash service for all residents. A motion was made to approach the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) after the elections with the idea of getting trash service. Motion tabled until November meeting.

Withers tried to get an FWC person to come to the meeting to discuss the bear problem. [note from Ann: Maria Williams of FWC made a presentation on bears at the July, 2009 meeting.]

Heymann questioned the trash pickup schedule and feels we need an ordinance or rules as to what is allowed. [note from Ann, There is an icon on APTA's web site for “statutes, permits and ordinances” - Debris Pickup Policy can be found here.]

P&Z, Board of Adjustment – Nothing affecting Alligator Point.

Membership – Membership totals have not changed from last meeting. A mailing is planned for late November or early December with registration renewals to current members and those who were members last year. An effort will be made to create an e-mail list of all members for notices and, perhaps, newsletter distribution.

Public Safety – A member reported that the wires to her telephone and security service had been cut. She will follow up with the Sheriff and let us know the results.

Kay McCord of the AP-ST VFD asked for volunteers for a First Responder Class. The class will be held at a time and place that is convenient for the participants. She will prepare a description for distribution.

Communication – The Newsletter is nearly ready for publication.

Water District – (Ken Osborne) Osborne attended the meeting for “concerned citizens” with a

consultant (CDM) that was hired by the City of Carrabelle to investigate the feasibility of running a water line to Alligator Point. While called a feasibility study, no other options are being considered, regardless of the fact that it is 13 miles to Carrabelle and only 3 miles to Panacea. There were no representatives of the Northwest Florida Water Management Board, who are pushing this concept. Carrabelle Commissioner Sands, who had attended our Board meeting, spoke briefly after Osborne was finished. He promised to get any information to APTA as needed and promised that Carrabelle only wants to help Alligator Point and has no intentions of taking it (the Water Board) over.

#### Other business

Sosebee gave a summary of the County's parking project on Alligator Point. The APTA web site has a PowerPoint presentation on the plan. The approach is to receive comments up to November 1 and then forward these comments to the BoCC. There is an article in the Newsletter planned. We will rely on the website and Newsletter for input.

Sosebee and other APTA Board members attended the public hearing on the ambulance service. He thinks that Alligator Point was well represented by Alan Feifer, who made remarks to the BoCC, and that Colbert, Hospital Board Administrator, made a poor and unprepared presentation. The outside ambulance service, LifeGuard, made a very impressive presentation that addressed the needs of the County. Feifer went over the information that was passed out prior to the meeting and compared what LifeGuard offered and what the Hospital Board did not offer. Current understanding is that the action taken by the BoCC is for an additional part-time ambulance. Note the concerns are for the professionalism of the management of the ambulance service, not the people or the on-site help they provide.

Cheryl Sanders, District 2 Commissioner, reiterated that her motion was for a full-time, additional (third) BLS ambulance. Alan Pierce has contacted the Hospital Board and informed them that a full-time BLS ambulance is required. Sanders explained that the votes were not there for approving LifeGuard as the provider, so she went with what she could get. She thinks that the Hospital Board is planning to use and believes they need to use the ½ -cent sales tax from Urgent Care center for financing the proposed new hospital. She further said that the new EMS committee will have oversight of the ambulance service and should be able to insure improved service.

Osborne proposed that an attorney be obtained and that legal action be taken against the County. He believes that this is the only way to get adequate ambulance service on Alligator Point. Feifer agrees. Cummins expressed reservations and thinks that we should wait and see some results, or lack of them before acting. Sosebee expressed concerns that we won't get any results for the BoCC without legal or some other action. Sanders asked that we 1) allow time to clarify her motion with the BoCC on Oct 19 meeting, and 2) get the daily logs on the new BLS unit.

Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Jim R Cummins