

## **APTA - Alligator Point Taxpayers Association**

Minutes of the Special Board of Directors Meeting – September 2, 2006

President Ken Osborne called the meeting to order. Since Commissioner Cheryl Sanders had limited time, he asked that her remarks be made before the Board started its discussions.

Prior to her comments, he expressed to her his extreme disappointment regarding the way the Commission's Budget meeting was conducted. He spoke of the intimidating nature and the atmosphere of harassment that permeated the meeting. Regardless of the budget numbers to be discussed, the meeting should be run in a courteous and professional manner. Many people in attendance felt that some county employees made comments which were not acceptable in a properly conducted government meeting.

Ms. Sanders stated that the county commission had no jurisdiction over the employees or their comments. She said she respected the opinion of everyone and she would never try to silence any comments because it would infringe upon their "freedom of speech" rights. She did state that she would try to maintain more decorum at the meetings in the future and apologized for the comments.

She did confirm that a \$2500 per employee raise was tentatively approved at the budget meeting but declined to say what her vote would be at the final meeting because she did not have the final numbers being prepared by Ms. Williams. In response to discussion of possibility of lowering the millage rates, she did not express any opinion. She then excused herself and left the meeting.

After her departure, there was more discussion of the disturbing nature of the meeting and the subsequent actions of some county officials. There were suggestions about options we have as a group and as individuals to address these issues.

Pres. Osborne reported that he had met with Alan Pierce and was told that the beach re-nourishment designs (1-4) were going to DEP on Tuesday (9/5). Mr. Pierce will also be meeting with FEMA regarding the C. W. Roberts paving bid.

A general discussion followed regarding APTA's role and interaction with the county government. Ann Maruszak agreed to attend the Budget Meeting on 9/6 on our behalf and present a letter from APTA requesting that our taxes not be raised in order to fund the proposed budget. Motion made by Houston, seconded by Hambrose to appoint Ann to present the APTA position at the meeting. Motion passed.

Regarding the South Shoals project, Paul Parker stated that as of now, the project was scheduled to proceed on the original plat and the original PUD which had been approved

and permitted with the assumption that the road would remain where it is. Joe Hambrose and Ann Maruszak will represent APTA at the South Shoals meeting on 9/5 but APTA will not have a formal position due to lack of information.

Motion made by Munroe, second by Houston to cancel our regular board meeting on Saturday, 9/9. Motion passed. Motion made by Munroe, second by Houston to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Camilla Godfrey, Secretary