

MINUTES

Merit System Protection Board, Escambia County October 14, 2008 5:00 p.m.

The Merit System Protection Board convened in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2008 with the following MSPB members and staff present:

MEMBERS:

Dan C. Bates, Chairman
Lt. Eddie Henderson (Ret.), Vice-Chair
Mrs. Shirley M. Terrell
Dr. Uylssess Hughes

STAFF:

Kay House, Director
V. Keith Wells, Board Attorney

The Chairman called the meeting to order and offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Dr. Hughes.

IV. RECOGNITION ~ RESOLUTION OF PAST BOARD MEMBER

The Chair recognized MSPB Director, Kay House. Mrs. House acknowledges the service of Mrs. Amy Binegar, Board of County Commissioners' Employee Representative since October 2005. She began by reading the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in order that we may accomplish the immense requirements of public service, we depend largely upon the expertise and talents of concerned citizens that are willing to unselfishly devote hours of their time to the betterment of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Merit System Protection Board of Escambia County is cognizant of the personal sacrifices required of its members to uphold and administer the Merit Protection System of Escambia County; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Amy Binegar, from October 2005 to September 2008, has served as an effective member of the Merit System Protection Board of Escambia County, Florida, whereby her membership and her impartial manner in upholding the Ordinance of Merit System Protection Board, and the Rules and Regulations of the Merit System Protection Board have earned her the appreciation of the employees, appointing authorities, and citizens of Escambia County, Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the other members of the Board, its attorney, and staff, do hereby respectfully recognize Mrs. Binegar for outstanding service as a member of said Board and for the unselfish manner in which she has devoted her talents and time in serving the public; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Merit System Protection, does hereby order that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of said Board, and that a copy be tendered to Mrs. Binegar.

Mrs. House acknowledged the absence of Mrs. Binegar due to an unexpected family circumstances; however a framed resolution with sincere appreciation for the service as an effective member of the Merit System Protection Board from October 2005 ~ October 2008 will be presented to Mrs. Binegar.

V. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY-APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER

Mrs. House recognized The Honorable Thomas Johnson, County Judge, who conducted the swearing-in of newly appointed Board Member, Ms. Shirley Terrell. Ms. Terrell is the newly appointed board member representing the Board of County Commissioner's Employees. She was administered the oath of office; seated as a MSPB Member and introduced to the Board and Board Staff. Ms. Terrell's term begins October 2008 through October 2010.

Board Chairman Bates resumed the Chair. There being no additions or corrections to the agenda, Dr. Hughes moved to adopt the agenda; Lt. Henderson seconded and motion carried unanimously. Upon call for the approval of the minutes of the MSPB Regular meeting on September 9, 2008, Dr. Hughes moved approval; Ms. Terrell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

VII. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. House acknowledges the absence of Board Member Father Jack Gray. Father Jack is in attendance of a mandatory Priest Retreat. Dr. Hughes offered a motion to excuse the absence of Father Jack; Lt. Henderson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. House acknowledged the presence of County Administrator, Mr. Bob McLaughlin; Santa Rosa Island Authority Executive Director, Mr. Buck Lee; Santa Rosa Island Authority Director of Administration, Mrs. Jayne Bell; and members of the BCC Employee Selection Committee.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Term Expiration (MSPB Members: Dr. Ulysses Hughes)

Dr. Hughes' appointment will end, November 2008. As the fifth board member, this appointment is the selection of the four-seated board members. Now that all four members are seated; the fifth member will be appointed during the next Board Meeting, November 2008.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. House acknowledges that the next scheduled MSPB Meeting is November 11, 2008, which is a holiday for county employees, Veteran's Day. Mrs. House suggested that the next MSPB Meeting be changed to either the first or third Tuesday of the Month. Dr. Hughes motion that November 4, 2008 is designated as the next scheduled board meeting; Mrs. Terrell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

X. REPORT FROM APPOINTING AUTHORITY AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

a. Board of County Commissioners

Mr. Peter Smith, BCC, HR Analyst to the Board of County Commissioners greeted the board.

b. Sheriff

The MSPB continues to offer voluntary mediation service to the Sheriff and his employees at no cost.

XI. INFORMATION and STAFF REQUEST

a. Current Financial Statement

Mrs. House presented the MSPB budget with a spreadsheet outlining expenditures by object code, including an explanation for each expenditure, and the current balance for each object code to date. Mrs. House outlined that the financial statement reflects the budget adopted by the Board of County Commissioners for fiscal year 2008-2009.

XII. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

a. MSPB Ordinance Modifications

Attorney Wells further discussed change in the penalty phase of the Ordinance. Attorney Wells reported that no meeting of the Ordinance Review Committee had taken place since the last Board meeting. Board Chairman Bates directed the Committee, headed by MSPB member Father Jack to continue to meet and recommend the suggested changes for submission to the appropriate constitutional officers and elected official.

b. SRIA employees update

Mrs. House introduced Mr. Buck Lee, SRIA Executive Director; and Mrs. Jane Bell, Director of Administration to address the Board.

Ordinance 2005-38, Section 2-209 Board Funding requires an interlocal agreement with the Board of County Commissioners.

The County Attorney's Office is coordinating with SRIA's Board Attorney and administrative staff to conclude the Agreement. The Agreement is being prepared to be presented to the Board of County Commissioners during its October 16, 2008 Regular Session for approval. Attorney Wells explained that once an interlocal agreement is established and approved, it would be submitted to the MSPB for inclusion.

Attorney Wells informed the MSPB Members that a new board member orientation would be scheduled after the appointment of the fifth board members. Attorney Wells extended the invitation to the other board members; however legal advertisement is required if other members wish to attend.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.