

**MINUTES
JOINT WORKSHOP
CLAY COUNTY BCC/CLAY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA
JULY 19, 2006**

The Board of County Commissioners and the Clay County School Board met in **Workshop Session** in the Commission Meeting Room, County Administration Building, on the above-stated date. Chairman of the Board Glenn Lassiter was absent due to illness, and Vice-Chairman Rutledge called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

The following were present: Harold Rutledge, Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, Commissioners Patrick D. McGovern and John E. Thrasher; School Superintendent David Owens, School Board Members Wayne Bolla, Carol Vallencourt, Carol Studdard, and Lisa Graham.

School Superintendent Owens thanked the Board for meeting with the School Board.

1. **School Concurrence**

Mike Elliott, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, spoke about the Interlocal Agreement regarding school concurrence.

Planning/Zoning Director Thad Crowe introduced members of Kimley Horne, the firm retained by the county to work on the school concurrence project. A power point presentation and lengthy discussion followed (see supplemental minutes).

2. **Educational Impact Fees**

Mike Elliott stated that the current impact fee sunsets in approximately one year and the School Board is currently moving to update the educational impact fees. He said that many factors have changed since implementation and he talked about some of those changes. The School Board members stated that they would be looking at restructuring the impact fees in the near future and County Commissioners were asked to give input so that it might be considered before that process begins. Discussion followed.

3. **Use of School Facilities for County Recreation**

Mr. Elliott provided a copy of a memorandum dated March 15, 1996, outlining the School Superintendent's position regarding the use of educational sites for recreation by outside organizations (see supplemental minutes).

Commissioner McGovern proposed a pilot program, which would develop an Interlocal Agreement using one elementary school in the beginning. He said if the program is successful, more schools would follow. In this agreement the county would buy and maintain playground equipment, in conjunction with the school system, to be placed at the pilot school for use by neighborhood children. Members of the school board stated that they would welcome such an agreement and discussion followed.

4. **Developer Finance of Schools**

School Superintendent David Owens commented on the misconception that the school district can force developers to pay the costs for building new schools, saying that that is just not the case. Mike Elliott stated that the school district intends to submit a binding developer agreement on a recent development, which has already gone through the school board. He said it will come to the Board in the form of a development order and he wanted an opportunity to clarify to the Board the reasons why the school district has handled financing costs in the development order in such a manner. Mr. Elliott spoke about the high cost of schools, stating that the developer's finance rate and costs are higher than the rates that the school district can borrow money at. He said whether the developer finances a school or the school district finances a school it is still debt to the school system; and the repayment at the higher cost locks up more impact fees and more ad valorem for a longer period of time. He stressed that financing schools through developers, with school district obligation for repayment, is not an advantage to the school system.

5. **Adjourn**

Vice-Chairman Rutledge adjourned the workshop at 4:16 p.m.

Harold Rutledge, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Fritz A. Behring, Clerk of the Board