

MEETING: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, REGULAR/WORKSHOP

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** September 25, 2001, at 9:40 a.m., in the Palm Beach County Governmental Center, West Palm Beach, Florida.

1.A. **ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS AND OFFICERS PRESENT:

Chair Warren H. Newell
Vice-Chair Carol A. Roberts
Commissioner Burt Aaronson
Commissioner Addie L. Greene
Commissioner Mary McCarty
Commissioner Karen T. Marcus
Commissioner Tony Masilotti
County Administrator Robert Weisman
Assistant County Attorney Leonard Berger
Deputy Clerk Joseph Smith

2. **AGENDA APPROVAL**

2.A. **ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, SUBSTITUTIONS** - None

2.B. **ADOPTION**

MOTION to adopt the agenda. Motion by Commissioner Masilotti, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, and carried 7-0.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

3. **9:30 A.M. - REDISTRICTING** - See pages 8-11.

4. **2:00 P.M. - TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL** - See pages 11-14.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA** - See pages 1-6.

6. **REGULAR AGENDA** - See pages 6-8.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

5.A. **CLERK**

5.A.1.

WARRANT LIST DATED SEPTEMBER 21, 2001. APPROVED 9-25-2001

COMPUTER CHECKS	\$22,293,471.24
WIRE TRANSFERS	48,419,187.59
MANUAL CHECKS	57,492.10
EFT TRANSFERS	<u>2,744,692.03</u>
	\$73,514,842.96

MOTION to approve the warrant list. Motion by Commissioner Masilotti, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, and carried 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA - CONTINUED

5.A.2.

CONTRACTS ON THE CONTRACT LIST EXECUTED BY THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR OR TOURIST DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, TOTALING \$3,626,735:

a.

RE-AWARDING OF TERM CONTRACT WITH HIGH TECH ENGINEERING FOR \$175,000 FOR UNDERGROUND FACILITIES LOCATING AND MARKING SERVICES FROM MARCH 1, 2001, THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2002, PER BID 01-037/CB. APPROVED 9-25-2001

b.

TERM CONTRACT WITH ALLIED UNIVERSAL AND KAHN CHEMICAL FOR \$250,000 FOR SODIUM HYDROXIDE USED IN WATER PURIFICATION FROM OCTOBER 2, 2001, THROUGH OCTOBER 1, 2002, PER BID 01-136/VMG. APPROVED 9-25-2001

c.

TERM CONTRACT WITH ONESOURCE LANDSCAPE AND GOLF SERVICES FOR \$1,600,000 FOR TURF MANAGEMENT AT OKEEHOLEE GOLF COURSE FROM OCTOBER 1, 2001, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2003, PER BID 01-180/MM. APPROVED 9-25-2001

d.

TERM CONTRACT WITH FRIENDS ASSISTING SENIORS, MEGA NURSING, INTERNATIONAL HOME HEALTH, AND A-D NURSING SERVICES VIA DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES FOR \$1,100,000 FOR IN-HOME SERVICES FROM NOVEMBER 1, 2001, THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2002, PER BID 01-166/KM. APPROVED 9-25-2001

e.

INCREASE IN TERM CONTRACT WITH PALM BEACH AGGREGATES FOR \$135,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF LIMESTONE FOR FEBRUARY 16, 2001, THROUGH FEBRUARY 15, 2002, PER BID 00-056/CB. APPROVED 9-25-2001

f.

TERM CONTRACT WITH TROY'S LAWN SERVICE, NEW LOOK LAWN SERVICE, TROIKA LANDSCAPING, AND VILA AND SON LANDSCAPING FOR \$108,693 FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE FOR SEVEN COUNTY ROAD LOCATIONS FROM SEPTEMBER 25, 2001, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 24, 2002, PER BID 01-139/KM. APPROVED 9-25-2001

g.

DOCUMENT R-2001-1561

AMENDMENT 1 TO CONTRACT WITH STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY FOR \$213,042 FOR LONG-TERM DISABILITY INSURANCE FOR JANUARY 1, 2002 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2002, PER BID 99-129/PR. (AMENDS R-99-1803-D) APPROVED 9-25-2001

CONSENT AGENDA - CONTINUED

5.A.2. - CONTINUED

h. DOCUMENT R-2001-1562

AMENDMENT 1 TO CONTRACT WITH DON BROWN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$35,000 FOR CONSULTING SERVICES WITH DISCOVER PALM BEACH COUNTY, INC., DBA PALM BEACH COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU, TO MARKET THE CURRENT RESOURCES OF THE COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN PALM BEACH COUNTY IN AREAS OF RECREATIONAL TOURISM, ECO-TOURISM, EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES, HERITAGE TOURISM AND RURAL AND AGRI-TOURISM. (AMENDS UNNUMBERED DISCOVER PALM BEACH COUNTY CONTRACT DATED FEBRUARY 15, 2000) APPROVED 9-25-2001

i. DOCUMENT R-2001-1563

AMENDMENT 2 TO CONTRACT WITH DON BROWN FOR CONSULTING SERVICES WITH DISCOVER PALM BEACH COUNTY, INC., DBA PALM BEACH COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU, TO SUBSTITUTE DON BROWN, INC., FOR DON BROWN AND TO AMEND SCOPE OF WORK. (AMENDS UNNUMBERED DISCOVER PALM BEACH COUNTY CONTRACT DATED FEBRUARY 15, 2000) (SEE R-2001-1562) APPROVED 9-25-2001

j. DOCUMENT R-2001-1564

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX CATEGORY G GRANT AGREEMENT WITH CYCLEFEST, INC., FOR \$10,000 FOR PROJECT FUNDING FROM JANUARY 1, 2001, TO OCTOBER 15, 2001, FOR BICYCLING EVENT OCTOBER 5 THROUGH 7, 2001. APPROVED 9-25-2001

MOTION to approve the contract list. Motion by Commissioner Masilotti, seconded by Commissioner Roberts, and carried 7-0.

5.B. ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS

5.B.1.

a. DOCUMENT R-2001-1565

CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,262,398.90 WITH RANGER CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES, INC., FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BOUTWELL ROAD FROM LAKE WORTH ROAD TO 2ND AVENUE NORTH AND 2ND AVENUE NORTH OVER LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT E-4 CANAL. APPROVED 9-25-2001

b. BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1494

BUDGET AMENDMENT OF \$100,819 IN THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND TO RECOGNIZE UTILITY RELOCATION REIMBURSEMENTS FROM ADELPHIA CABLE COMMUNICATIONS (\$412), BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS (\$16,200), AND LAKE WORTH UTILITIES (\$84,207) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BOUTWELL ROAD FROM LAKE WORTH ROAD TO 2ND AVENUE NORTH AND 2ND AVENUE NORTH OVER LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT E-4 CANAL. APPROVED 9-25-2001

CONSENT AGENDA - CONTINUED

5.B.1. - CONTINUED

c. BUDGET TRANSFER 2001-1495

BUDGET TRANSFER OF \$496,451 IN THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND FROM RESERVES - ROAD PROGRAM SWEEPS TO BOUTWELL ROAD FROM LAKE WORTH ROAD TO 2ND AVENUE NORTH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BOUTWELL ROAD FROM LAKE WORTH ROAD TO 2ND AVENUE NORTH AND 2ND AVENUE NORTH OVER LAKE WORTH DRAINAGE DISTRICT E-4 CANAL. APPROVED 9-25-2001

5.B.2.

a. DOCUMENT R-2001-1566

CONTRACT FOR \$426,190.55 WITH CDL EARTHMOVING & PAVING CORPORATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF WATER TOWER ROAD FROM WEST OF 15TH STREET TO OLD DIXIE HIGHWAY. APPROVED 9-25-2001

b. BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1499

BUDGET AMENDMENT OF \$8,950 IN THE ROAD IMPACT FEES AREA C FUND TO RECOGNIZE A UTILITY RELOCATION REIMBURSEMENT FROM SEACOAST UTILITY AUTHORITY FOR WATER TOWER ROAD FROM WEST OF 15TH STREET TO OLD DIXIE HIGHWAY. APPROVED 9-25-2001

5.B.3.

a. DOCUMENT R-2001-1567

CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,480,000 WITH RIC-MAN INTERNATIONAL, INC., FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF HAGEN RANCH ROAD FROM WEST ATLANTIC AVENUE TO NORTH OF LAKE IDA ROAD AND HAGEN RANCH ROAD FROM THE L-30 CANAL TO BOYNTON BEACH BOULEVARD. APPROVED 9-25-2001

b. BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1454

BUDGET AMENDMENT OF \$18,248 IN THE ROAD IMPACT FEES AREA K FUND TO RECOGNIZE UTILITY RELOCATION PAYMENTS FROM BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND \$6,000 FROM ADELPHIA CABLE COMPANY FOR HAGEN RANCH ROAD/WEST ATLANTIC AVENUE TO LAKE IDA ROAD AND HAGEN RANCH ROAD/L-30 CANAL TO BOYNTON BEACH BOULEVARD PROJECTS. APPROVED 9-25-2001

c. DOCUMENT R-2001-1568

CHANGE ORDER 1 TO CONTRACT WITH RIC-MAN INTERNATIONAL, INC., FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF HAGEN RANCH ROAD FROM WEST ATLANTIC AVENUE TO NORTH OF LAKE IDA ROAD AND HAGEN RANCH ROAD FROM THE L-30 CANAL TO BOYNTON BEACH BOULEVARD IN THE DEDUCTIVE AMOUNT OF \$2,597,480.91, DELETING 30,655 LINEAR FEET OF IRON PIPE AND FITTINGS FOR WATER AND EFFLUENT AND DESIGNATING RIC-MAN INTERNATIONAL AS THE COUNTY'S AGENT FOR THE INSPECTION AND RECEIPT OF PIPE MATERIALS. (AMENDS R-2001-1567) APPROVED 9-25-2001

CONSENT AGENDA - CONTINUED

5.B.3. - CONTINUED

d.

AUTHORIZATION OF A PURCHASE ORDER WITH UNITED STATES PIPE AND FOUNDRY, INC., TO FURNISH 30,655 LINEAR FEET OF DUCTILE IRON PIPE AND FITTINGS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,450,453.69. APPROVED 9-25-2001

5.B.4.

a.

DOCUMENT R-2001-1569

CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,685,973.75 WITH J.W. CHEATHAM, INC., FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF LANTANA ROAD FROM STATE ROAD 7 TO FLORIDA TURNPIKE AND LYONS ROAD FROM LANTANA ROAD TO 1,400 FEET NORTH. APPROVED 9-25-2001

b.

BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1451

BUDGET AMENDMENT OF \$1,506,758 IN ROAD IMPACT FEES AREA I FUND TO RECOGNIZE UTILITY RELOCATION PAYMENTS OF \$6,746 FROM BELL SOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS OF \$1,500,012 FOR THE LANTANA ROAD/STATE ROAD 7 TO FLORIDA TURNPIKE AND LYONS ROAD/LANTANA ROAD TO 1,400 FEET NORTH PROJECTS. APPROVED 9-25-2001

5.C. TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

5.C.1.

DOCUMENT R-2001-1570

AGREEMENT WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY CULTURAL COUNCIL, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$535,725 FOR SERVICES NEEDED TO ASSIST THE COUNTY IN CARRYING OUT THE OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRST YEAR (FY 2001/2002) OF A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2006. APPROVED 9-25-2001

5.C.2.

DOCUMENT R-2001-1571

AGREEMENT WITH DISCOVER PALM BEACH COUNTY, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,327,500 FOR SERVICES NEEDED TO CARRY OUT THE OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRST YEAR (FY 2001/2002) OF A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2006. APPROVED 9-25-2001

5.C.3.

DOCUMENT R-2001-1572

AGREEMENT WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY FILM & TELEVISION COMMISSION, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$533,200 FOR SERVICES NEEDED TO CARRY OUT THE OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRST YEAR (FY 2001/2002) OF A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2006. APPROVED 9-25-2001

CONSENT AGENDA - CONTINUED

5.C.4.

DOCUMENT R-2001-1573

AGREEMENT WITH THE PALM BEACH COUNTY SPORTS COMMISSION, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$653,442 FOR SERVICES NEEDED TO ASSIST IN CARRYING OUT THE OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE FIRST YEAR (FY2002) OF A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2006. APPROVED 9-25-2001

6. REGULAR AGENDA

6.A. ADMINISTRATION

6.A.1.

RESOLUTION R-2001-1574

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE COWARDLY AND DEADLY ACTIONS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, AND SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENT AS HE WORKS WITH HIS NATIONAL SECURITY TEAM TO DEFEND AGAINST ADDITIONAL ATTACKS AND FIND THE PERPETRATORS AND BRING THEM TO JUSTICE. ADOPTED 9-25-2001

MOTION to adopt the resolution. Motion by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Masilotti, and carried 7-0.

6.A.2.

a.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTY EMPLOYEES DISASTER RELIEF FUND, TO ALLOW COUNTY EMPLOYEES TO DONATE MONEY TO AID FAMILIES AND VICTIMS OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TRAGEDY IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, D.C. APPROVED 9-25-2001

County Administrator Weisman explained to the board that under this program, the county would pay cash for up to eight hours of accrued vacation time that any county employee cared to donate. The program was voluntary and complete details regarding the distribution of the funds generated remained to be completed, he said. Staff was seeking board direction.

Commissioner Newell noted that firefighters and some others would like to earmark their donations to firefighters. Commissioner Aaronson suggested donations to municipal workers in New York City and federal employees in Washington, D.C.

(CLERK'S NOTE: See page 13 for further discussion of item 6.A.2.)

b.

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE THE DOCUMENTS TO ESTABLISH A TRUST ACCOUNT FOR DONATIONS TO THE PALM BEACH COUNTY EMPLOYEES DISASTER RELIEF FUND TO AID THE FAMILIES AND VICTIMS OF THE NATIONAL TRAGEDY THAT OCCURRED ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, D.C. APPROVED 9-25-2001

MOTION to establish the county employees disaster fund and to authorize the county administrator to establish a trust account for donations. Motion by Commissioner Masilotti, seconded by Commissioner McCarty, and carried 7-0.

REGULAR AGENDA - CONTINUED

6.B. AIRPORTS

6.B.1.

a. BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1516

BUDGET AMENDMENT OF \$89,713,846 IN THE AIRPORTS DEBT SERVICE FUND, SERIES 2001, TO ESTABLISH BUDGET FOR THE RECEIPT OF BOND PROCEEDS, ADVANCE REFUNDING ESCROW, ISSUE COSTS, INTERFUND TRANSFERS, AND RESERVES. APPROVED 9-25-2001

b. BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1517

DOWNWARD BUDGET AMENDMENT OF \$1,081,686 IN THE AIRPORTS DEBT SERVICE FUND, SERIES 1991/1992, TO ADJUST DEBT SERVICE AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS. APPROVED 9-25-2001

c. BUDGET TRANSFER 2001-1518

BUDGET TRANSFER OF \$300,000 IN THE AIRPORTS DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUND FROM RESERVE FOR FUTURE DEBT SERVICE TO FUND 540 SERIES 01 TO AMEND BOND RESERVE AMOUNTS AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SERIES 2001 AIRPORT REVENUE BONDS. APPROVED 9-25-2001

d. BUDGET TRANSFER 2001-1519

BUDGET TRANSFER OF \$1,081,686 IN THE AIRPORTS REVENUE FUND FROM FUND 541 SERIES 91 TO FUND 540 SERIES 01 AND OPERATING RESERVES TO AMEND INTERFUND TRANSFERS AND OPERATING RESERVES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SERIES 2001 AIRPORT REVENUE BONDS. APPROVED 9-25-2001

6.B.2.

a. DOCUMENT R-2001-1575

AGREEMENT FOR PURCHASE AND SALE TO ACQUIRE THE KING'S ACADEMY SCHOOL FOR \$14,500,000 AND A LEASE AGREEMENT LEASING THE PROPERTY BACK TO KING'S ACADEMY. APPROVED 9-25-2001

b.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AIRPORTS' FUNDS TO ESTABLISH BUDGETED EXPENDITURES OF \$14,500,000 AS FOLLOWS:

(1) BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1520

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD AMENDMENT TO INCREASE RESERVES IN FUND 544 BY \$8,057,697. APPROVED 9-25-2001

REGULAR AGENDA - CONTINUED

6.B.2. - CONTINUED

(2) BUDGET AMENDMENT 2001-1521

BUDGET AMENDMENT IN FUND 556 TO RECOGNIZE FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS OF \$3,487,500. APPROVED 9-25-2001

(3) BUDGET TRANSFER 2001-1522

BUDGET TRANSFER OF \$9,975,000 FROM FUND 544 RESERVES TO AIRPORT EXPENDITURES (KING'S ACADEMY LAND) TO ESTABLISH EXPENDITURES OF \$9,975,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF KING'S ACADEMY LAND. APPROVED 9-25-2001

(4) BUDGET TRANSFER 2001-1542

BUDGET TRANSFER OF \$387,500 FROM FUND 9909 RESERVES TO 6101 LAND TO ESTABLISH EXPENDITURES OF \$3,875,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF KING'S ACADEMY LAND. APPROVED 9-25-2001

(5) BUDGET TRANSFER 2001-1523

BUDGET TRANSFER OF \$650,000 FROM FUND 558 RESERVES TO AIRPORT EXPENDITURES (KING'S ACADEMY LAND) FOR THE PURCHASE OF KING'S ACADEMY LAND. APPROVED 9-25-2001

6.C. ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS

6.C.1. BUDGET TRANSFER 2001-1538

BUDGET TRANSFER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,000 IN THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND FROM THE RESERVE FOR DISTRICT 6 TO THE WINDMILL ROAD MAINTENANCE PROJECT - DISTRICT 6 TO FUND SHELLROCK MATERIAL FOR A DETERIORATED SECTION OF WINDMILL ROAD, WEST OF SEMINOLE PRATT WHITNEY ROAD. APPROVED 9-25-2001

WORKSHOP ITEMS

3. 9:30 A.M. - REDISTRICTING. DISCUSSED WITH DIRECTION 9-25-2001

Assistant County Administrator Verdenia C. Baker introduced Patricia Schapley, associate director of the Joint Center for Environmental & Urban Problems, and David Buffington, chief legal counsel for Reapportionment Group 2000.

Ms. Baker noted that on April 17, 2001, the board approved a contract with the Joint Center to prepare commission district boundary maps based on the 2000 census and other criteria approved by the board at that time and with Reapportionment Group 2000 for outside legal review.

Staff was seeking direction in order to hold a preliminary reading of an ordinance to adopt a version of the map on October 16 and to advertise a final public hearing November 6, 2001.

Commissioner Masilotti asked if minor modifications could be made before the first hearing.

WORKSHOP ITEMS - CONTINUED

3. 9:30 A.M. - CONTINUED

Assistant County Attorney Berger said modifications could be made before the first reading and that the board was not bound by any decision that it might make at the workshop meeting.

Mr. Buffington noted that the criteria adopted by the board for redistricting generally matched up with principles of law.

Criteria included:

- Achieving population equity among districts;
- Adhering to Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act to create or maintain districts reflecting minority voting;
- Following natural and manmade boundaries;
- Maintaining integrity of communities of interest;
- Ensuring compact and contiguous districts; and
- Preserving the core of existing districts.

Population equity among districts has implications for the one-person, one-vote principle which is always the highest priority in drawing districts, Mr. Buffington said.

Ideal population for a district is determined by dividing the total population of a county by the number of districts to be drawn so that they will be equal or nearly equal. Any deviation below 10 percent is constitutional, he said.

Commissioner Roberts said that she favored a standard of plus or minus one percent.

Commissioner Aaronson asked if high growth trends in certain areas of the county could be considered in drawing the boundaries. Mr. Buffington said law requires using existing census data.

Commissioner Masilotti noted that with population growth in his district in the year and a half since the census, the numbers were already skewed.

The county originally went to districts to comply with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and created a "majority minority" district in District 7, Mr. Buffington observed.

He said the problem in trying to maintain demographic character is that District 7 is 53 percent African-American, but "grossly underpopulated" compared to the population growth of the county as a whole and the relatively smaller growth of African-American population in the county (14 percent of the population, up from 12.5 percent in 1990).

The challenge was to raise District 7 to an acceptable population level, while maintaining its racial character, he said. The Joint Center designed two options, both of which kept District 7 with a 51 percent African-American population.

WORKSHOP ITEMS - CONTINUED

3. 9:30 A.M. - CONTINUED

Because the Hispanic population had increased so dramatically in the county (12.5 percent of the population, up from 7.7 percent in 1990), the center looked at the possibility of creating a Hispanic district, but found the Hispanic population too dispersed over the county, Mr. Buffington reported.

The county is so large that the priority to follow natural, manmade, and municipal boundaries would be reflected in any proposed plan, he observed.

Ensuring compact and contiguous districts is a traditional districting criterion, subordinate to one-person, one-vote considerations and to Section 2 considerations, Mr. Buffington stated.

Preserving the core of existing districts translates to avoiding placing incumbents in the same district, he said.

The Supreme Court has recognized that districting is essentially a political process, Mr. Buffington disclosed. Once all the legalities have been observed, it is the political process that determines where district lines are going to be drawn, he noted.

Because of the number of census blocks and the large population in the county, a large number of districting plans could be drawn that complied with the law, he said.

Commissioner Newell noted that the law allows redistricting every other year and if certain districts in the county grow as expected, the board could redistrict that frequently.

The ultimate challenge to a redistricting plan lies in a court challenge to it, Mr. Buffington said.

Ms. Schapley presented a slide program of proposed districts. She noted that the maps grew out of 2000 census data and census blocks, elections data, precinct and municipal boundaries, interviews with commissioners, drawing, reviewing, and refining.

In a proposed districting map, districts would see population changes as follows: District 1, 157,600 from 160,000; District 2, 163,600 from 154,352; District 3, 166,000 from 180,456; District 4, 160,000 from 152,000; District 5, 167,000 from 175,000; District 6, 159,000 from 175,473; and District 7, 158,000 from 130,000.

Commissioners Newell, Masilotti, and Aaronson were particularly concerned about future growth patterns in the county and commissioners generally wanted more time to consider the expansion of District 7 while maintaining its racial integrity.

Commissioner Aaronson said he was concerned about having no municipalities in his newly drawn district.

Ms. Baker said she could develop another redistricting map, highlighting commissioners' specific areas of concern.

Commissioner Newell asked staff for further information on projected future growth patterns in the county over the next 10 years.

WORKSHOP ITEMS - CONTINUED

3. 9:30 A.M. - CONTINUED

Commissioner Roberts suggested the redistricting matter be put back on the commission agenda for October 16 for further discussion, and the board concurred.

Commissioner Aaronson said he regretted that the Sunshine Law did not allow commissioners to discuss redistricting matters with each other outside of commission meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mami Kisner told the board that she was proud that the commission was finally showing diversity and expressed the hope that it would continue in the redistricting process. Voters like to see the commission reflect the diversity of the community, she said.

RECESS

At 11:50 a.m., the chair declared a recess.

RECONVENE

At 2:05 p.m., the board reconvened with Commissioners Aaronson, Greene, Masilotti, McCarty, Newell, and Roberts present. Commissioner Marcus absent.

4. 2:00 P.M. - TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL PRESENTATION. DISCUSSED WITH DIRECTION 9-25-2001

J. Charles Lehmann, executive director of the Tourist Development Council (TDC), and representatives of the various agencies of the Tourist Development Council hosted a slide presentation for the board to review the council's variety of activities.

County tourism statistics presented showed that:

- The number of hotel guests in the county was up 77 percent in the last seven years. A total of 46 percent come for vacations and pleasure and 48 percent for conferences, conventions, or business.
- Of the total 2,152,682 hotel guests in the county during 1999-2000, 1,932,933 originated in the United States and 219,749 from outside the country.
- Most popular visitor activities were going to restaurants, fishing and water activities, shopping, going to bars and nightclubs, golf and tennis, sporting events and competitions, and performing arts and cultural activities.
- Daily room rate averages climbed from \$76 to \$118 over the past 10 years. The county gross bed tax showed collections peaking at about \$2.5 million a month during winter months, with February consistently highest over the past five winter seasons.

WORKSHOP ITEMS - CONTINUED

4. 2:00 P.M. - CONTINUED

Among TDC agencies and programs:

- The Film and Television Commission has increased tourism dollars by upping both permit fees to access government property and hotel room nights. Production revenue in the past 12 months has climbed to almost \$120 million, and Mr. Lehmann called film and television production an important economic driver in the county. Ocean Studios, one of the original grantees in the film incentive program, is doing very well, he said. Heartbreakers, filmed mostly at the Breakers Hotel, was the largest film completed here recently, he noted.
- The Shoreline Protection Program replenishes sand on beaches and underwrites reef construction. Of the 33 percent county share of funding for coastal projects, 77 percent comes from the bed tax. Among recent shoreline projects are the South Boca Raton, Jupiter/Carlin and Delray Beach Renourishment projects, the Jupiter Enhancement Reef, and the Juno Mitigation Reef.
- The Sports Commission is contracted by the county to stimulate bed tax revenues, primarily in off-season, and to enhance the economic impact of sports. The commission has hosted the Maccabi Games, Unified Youth Sports Festival, Florida Fire Fighters Games, and the Sunshine State Games and is anticipating involvement in the 2002 Sunshine State Games, U.S.A. Baseball Headquarters relocation, Pan American Junior Water Polo championship, U.S. Field Hockey National Championship, Junior World Cup Inline Hockey Tournament, 2004 Florida Fire Fighters Olympics, and the U.S.A. Canoe/Kayak Federation relocation. It has been encouraging needed facilities in the county, including the Convention Center, the proposed Don King Arena, and South Florida Fairgrounds Expansion. Its Sports Institute hosts Unified Youth Sports Festival, Sports Achievement Awards, Year-Round Clinics, and the Lou Groza Award.
- The Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) is the TDC's largest agency, with a 2001 budget of \$8,830,000 and a staff of 45. It seeks to increase tourism in the county. Much of the county's tourism literature is done in-house, and the CVB maintains a web site, which includes the convention center.

Construction of the Convention Center is on schedule, with vertical construction to begin in December, Mr. Lehmann said. The center's banquet facilities will seat over 2,000 people and will also be used for exhibit space, he reported. A membership program for the convention center has generated over \$200,000, he disclosed.

Commissioner Newell asked that the TDC inquire as to the status of the new Don King Arena.

Commissioner Masilotti asked if the TDC was aware that the National Fisheries Council had voted to close reefs in the county to recreational fishing. He said the impact on tourism could be tremendous. He suggested joining with the county attorney's office in filing appeals. Commissioner Newell asked County Administrator Weisman to have staff look into the matter. Commissioner Aaronson said that he could not understand why TDC was unaware of the development.

Commissioner Newell reported that other counties around the Lake Okeechobee area had asked him to approach TDC for help in promoting the lake for tourism.

WORKSHOP ITEMS - CONTINUED

4. 2:00 P.M. - CONTINUED

Commissioner Aaronson noted that Lake Okeechobee would be great for fishing tournaments, but that there was a need for a hotel in that area.

Commissioner Newell asked about concerns about the reduction of tourism income in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorism.

Mr. Lehmann called concerns "extreme," with the terrorism issue and a falling economy. He conceded that no one knew when the public would be willing to travel by commercial airline and that represented 60 percent of the county's travel business. While 80 percent of flights were ongoing at the airport, they were carrying a smaller number of passengers, he said.

Mr. Lehmann revealed that many corporate groups are rebooking hotels for later dates. He said the real concern was with leisure travelers this winter. Most travelers to the county are of a certain age and extremely safety-conscious, he noted.

Commissioner Aaronson reported that the matter was discussed at the last TDC meeting. TDC agencies were asked to find additional dollars in their budgets to allow CVB to do more advertising for tourism.

Commissioner McCarty said she was a little leery of "re-dividing the pie" and suggested CVB examine its own budget first.

Commissioner Masilotti asked which tourist market was the most profitable for the county.

Warren ("Mac") McLaughlin, president of the CVB, replied that it was the northeastern United States. He said the CVB was investigating co-op advertising with airlines as well as joint programs with Amtrak, bus companies, and car rental agencies to accommodate people who are afraid to fly. He said for the short term, CVB was focusing its advertising in newspapers in the Northeast and Midwest.

Commissioner Masilotti said he traveled to Detroit, Chicago, and Milwaukee and that the county did no advertising there compared to the northeastern corridor.

Mr. McLaughlin noted that tourism overall was expected to be minimized for awhile. Since New York area residents were very emotional due to the terrorism, CVB was focusing its advertising in other areas, including Detroit and Chicago, he said.

Commissioner McCarty suggested using the half-million dollars that were expected to be donated by county employees to the Disaster Relief Fund to underwrite vacations to Palm Beach County for those affected by the tragedy. The money would go to the hotels and be reinvested in the county, she speculated.

Commissioner Aaronson said the money was insufficient for that and questioned the wisdom of deciding who could make such a trip and who could not.

Commissioner Greene observed that every time tourists come to the county, residents begin to ask when are they going to go home. She said that in the light of the national tragedy, there was more concern with the county's economy than giving people time to heal.

WORKSHOP ITEMS - CONTINUED

4. 2:00 P.M. - CONTINUED

Mr. McLaughlin conceded that tourists contribute to crowded roads, but that their purchases of gasoline generated taxes to build roads and their purchases in restaurants generated sales taxes that support state government. The county would not have as many facilities and restaurants if it were not for tourists and seasonal residents, he noted.

Commissioner Masilotti observed that it is the job of the county to promote tourism because it is an issue of employment.

Speaking as chair of the TDC, Commissioner Aaronson said it would continue to try to bring tourism to the county and still be sensitive to what has happened.

Mr. McLaughlin told the commission that there have been 11 firm commitments for bookings at the Convention Center, representing over 40,000 room nights, and another 26 pending, with the bookings starting in July of 2003.

Commissioner Roberts asked about the status of the hotel being built next to the Convention Center.

Mr. McLaughlin said it was a 400-room hotel, still on schedule, and the Sheraton and Hilton nearby are also expected to be adding rooms.

Responding to a question by Commissioner Masilotti, Mr. McLaughlin noted that the TDC was in the process of promoting the far-western county as "the Lake region" and was communicating with officials in other counties to promote tourism in that area.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The chair declared the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

ATTESTED:

APPROVED:

Clerk

Chair