

**WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HELD ON MAY 8, 2012 AT 1:00 PM  
IN THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM  
ROOM 103, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
ARCADIA, FLORIDA**

The Board of County Commissioners held a Workshop Meeting on May 8, 2012 with the following persons present:

Chairman, Buddy Mansfield, Dist#1  
Commissioner, Jim Selph, Dist#2  
Commissioner, Judy Schaefer, Dist#3  
Commissioner, Elton A. Langford, Dist#4  
County Administrator, C. Guy Maxcy  
County Attorney, Donald Conn

Fire Chief, Glenn Prescott  
Fire Inspector, Juanita Gatlin  
Fire Inspector, Richard Sudol  
Building Inspector, Lester Hornbake  
Facilities Director, Richard Metzger  
Transcribing Secretary, Betty Phillips

**CALL TO ORDER**

**1:00 PM**

Chief Prescott stated that Ordinance #2006-64 has been suspended since last year and they have prepared a new draft of that Ordinance. He indicated the purpose was to help the residents of DeSoto County by incorporating the State Fire Code thereby keeping the regulations consistent. Chief Prescott stated that the changes are in an underlined format and include any deviations from the State Fire Code. Also addressed is the Fee Schedule and they have made the process less costly and time consuming. Brief discussion followed regarding Page 7-Section 9-C regarding inspections on a 12-18 month schedule. Ms. Gatlin stated that this was the most common practice and indicated that other counties use a hazardous category/classification to determine how often an inspection should be done. It was suggested that they look at doing that as it should cut their workload and save the taxpayer's money. Chairman Mansfield questioned the time allotted for correction of violations. Mr. Sudol stated that we usually give them 30 days however some asked for extensions and they are granted when necessary. Commissioner Selph stated that he knew first hand regarding how costly it can be to update those violations and felt that the Fire Inspectors did a good job. Brief discussion followed regarding multiple residential units and fire extinguishers inspections.

Chairman Mansfield inquired about the "Knox Box" situation. Chief Prescott stated that they are not requiring it but recommending it because it creates a liability when there are too many keys to keep track of if it is not centralized. Brief discussion followed regarding why having one system for the "key box" was important. Commissioner Selph suggested using the Chamber of Commerce and other methods to educate the businesses about the importance of using a one key system. It was also suggested that staff hold a meeting much like the Building Department did to educate the businesses.

Chairman Mansfield questioned Section 25 regarding Carnivals-Festivals-Outside Public Assemblies-Fire Works Public Displays. Mr. Sudol stated that permits are required for all tents for public assembly including the Fair Grounds. Brief discussion followed regarding what the Florida Statutes require them to check on including tents and trailers used at the Fair.

Commissioner Selph questioned Section 27 regarding "Open Burning" and if it falls under the Department of Forestry regulations and it was indicated that it does. Chief Prescott stated that he

would like to bring the Ordinance for adoption at the June 26, 2012 Board Meeting. Mr. Conn indicated that they could extend the extension of the suspension. Chairman Mansfield stated that he would like to get more businesses in here to review the Ordinance prior to adoption and Chairman Langford agreed that we needed to educate the people involved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Mansfield adjourned the meeting at 2:05 PM.

**ATTEST:**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION  
DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA**

  
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C. GUY MAXCY  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

  
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JURIL O. MANSFIELD  
CHAIRMAN