



ESCAMBIA  
COUNTY

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioner Marie Young, Chairman, District 3  
FROM: Alison P. Rogers, County Attorney *APR*  
DATE: July 29, 2009  
RE: Commissioner White

Commissioner White wishes to distribute this letter to all of you as a courtesy. In my opinion, such a distribution is legal so long as it is only a one-way communication. **Please do not interact with Commissioner White or any other Commissioner about this topic in any way unless it is at an advertised public meeting that complies with the Sunshine Law.** At this time, I would also note that no other Commissioner should distribute any memo, letter or other opinion piece regarding the Administrator's budget proposal as it could be perceived as interaction. Also be careful about using anyone in the media as a liaison between or among you. If you have any questions or encounter any issues about this that concern you, please come to me directly.

APR/ds

Attachment

cc: Commissioner Grover C. Robinson IV, Vice Chairman, District 4 (w/attachment)  
Commissioner Wilson Robertson, District 1 (w/attachment)  
Commissioner Gene M. Valentino, District 2 (w/attachment)  
Commissioner Kevin White, District 5 (w/attachment)

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA**



Wilson B. Robertson  
District One

Gene M. Valentino  
District Two

Marie Young  
District Three

Grover C. Robinson, IV  
District Four

Kevin W. White  
District Five

221 Palafox Place, Suite 400  
P. O. Box 1591  
Pensacola, Florida 32591-1591

Telephone (850) 595-4902  
Toll Free (866) 730-9152  
Telefax (850) 595-4908  
(Suncom) 695-4902

July 29, 2009

Robert McLaughlin,

I have thought long and hard about several issues that I am very concerned about. First, the budget you have presented is not sustainable and it is absurd to use reserves to balance a budget. Using one time revenues is avoiding the inevitable. Instead of laying people (low performers) off, you have used reserves and fund balance carry forwards to keep them. I do not like layoffs but they are reality and government should not be any different than the private sector when it comes to this. Second, do you realize we have an existing contract for Articles 4, 6, 7, & 9 with MSCW. It is unfortunate but I do not have the confidence in some of the staff to come up with documents that will simplify the process to do business in Escambia County. It has been proven in the past that some staff does not follow Board direction very well. Just yesterday at a going away luncheon, it was said in a speech from a Planning & Zoning Staff person that "Working for local government is tough because politics get out of whack". What exactly are they insinuating? The Board gets out of whack when we have staff members not doing their jobs and getting involved in the politics. At the same time you are willing to cut retirees life insurance policies which total only \$11,000 per year for all of them. The community as a whole is going to be furious about this decision. Third, Code Enforcement needs to be addressed. There have been a number of complaints filed from employees to citizens and nothing has been done. I would have to say based on all the documents that an active citizen has showed me, they are probably correct about this department. As Janet Landers stated in a memo, this department is "dysfunctional at best" and every time there is a complaint it is swept under the rug. Fourth and foremost, I will not be supporting the proposed budget as it stands now. It is poor fiscal planning on your part and I will not bear the responsibility of voting for something that I know is wrong.

I'm sorry if I have said anything out of line but I had to get this off my chest. Things have to change and I am not just speaking as Commissioner but a citizen as well.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kevin W. White