

Okaloosa County News Release

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3 Okaloosa Co. Water and Sewer Employees Rewarded with HERO Award *Nick Enders, Jody Helms and Matthew Broadway Help a Man and His Dog*

Okaloosa County Board of Commissioners awarded another HERO award (Humanitarian Efforts Recognized by Okaloosa County), at the July county commission meeting. Nick Enders, Jody Helms and Matthew Broadway were working at the Arbennie Pritchett Water Reclamation Facility, when their timely actions may have saved a life.

The Okaloosa County Water and Sewer employees had noticed an elderly gentleman in the woods with his dog in the past, and when the man's van remained longer than normal, they investigated. Enders, Helms and Broadway found Mr. Leonard Reppert in the woods barely conscious and immediately called 911. Mr. Reppert had a history of heart problems and was a stroke victim – had the employees not investigated – the outcome may have been very different. Due to their actions, Mr. Reppert received timely emergency medical care.

“We have hard-working, dedicated employees,” stated Okaloosa County Commission Chairman Wayne Harris. “I am very proud to recognize these gentlemen.” The HERO award recognizes a deed, act or event in which an employee not only goes beyond the scope of what his or her job entails, but has done something of a humanitarian or heroic nature. This can include acts occurring outside work hours and submissions by people outside Okaloosa County staff.

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