

Okaloosa County News Release

6/9/2011

Kathy Newby, 850.651.7515, knewby@co.okaloosa.fl.us

Okaloosa County Public Works Gains Full Accreditation

Okaloosa County Public Works joins **only 6** other public works departments in Florida to **meet the requirements of the American Public Works Association** accreditation, (APWA). “I’m exceptionally proud to be a part of this organization and even more proud of the men and women who have made this happen and the outstanding service they provide to our citizens,” stated Public Works Director John Hofstad.

The County’s Public Works Department underwent an intense evaluation for two and half days, while the accreditation team with the American Public Works Association visited our facilities to evaluate numerous practice areas related to a wide range of public works practices. **During the process, over 500 practices were evaluated, of which we received a 98 percent full compliance rating.**

“This is a tremendous accomplishment for our Public Works Department and I hope that you will join me in thanking those men and women who work diligently each and every day to provide the essential infrastructure, services, and programs that our residents and visitors have come to expect,” stated Chairman James Campbell, Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners. **There are roughly 19,500 governmental public works organizations throughout the Country, and only 68 (including Okaloosa County) are nationally accredited.** “On behalf of the members of the Accreditation Council, Site Visit Team and APWA, congratulations to Okaloosa County Department of Public Works and the entire staff for this great accomplishment,” Director of Credentialing Ann Daniels, APWA.

###