

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
May 2, 2006**

**Commissioners Present:** Cheryl Sanders - Chairman, Russell Crofton - Vice-Chairman, Noah Lockley, Jimmy Mosconis, and Bevin Putnal

**Staff Present:** Van Johnson - Solid Waste Department, Hubert Chipman - Road Department, Bill Mahan - County Extension Director, Marcia Johnson - Clerk of Courts, Alan Pierce - Director of Administrative Services, Michael Schuler - County Attorney, Michael Moron - Board Secretary

**Call to Order**

Chairman Sanders called the Regular Meeting to order at 9:00 am

**Pledge and Prayer**

There was a Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

**Payment of Bills**

**Motion by Crofton, seconded by Putnal to approve Payment of Bills as presented except for the payment to G & N Services. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Crofton, seconded by Putnal to approve payment for G & N Services. Motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Lockley abstaining due to a conflict.**

**Doris Gibbs - Supervisor of Elections**

Discussed need for additional space; requested authority to rent the old Florida Power Building at a rate of \$1200 per month for the 1st year and \$2400 per month for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Mosconis to to authorize the Supervisor of Election office to rent the old Florida Power Building at a rate of \$1200 per month for 1 year contingent on the Clerk's and Alan Pierce's approval. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Department Supervisor Report**

**Hubert Chipman**

Gave a progress report on the boat ramp at Pine Log.

**Van Johnson**

Discussed the need for Animal Control Officers to receive training to become certified to carry a "Taser" while on duty which would cost approximately \$2400; requested

approval for the summer recreation plan with the County contributing \$10,000; gave an update of the new statewide radio system.

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Putnal to permit Animal Control Officers to receive training and certification to carry a “Taser” and to approve written policy governing the use of the device. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal to approve the summer recreation program plan as presented with the County contributing \$10,000, from the Park and Recreation Youth Program Support line item budget directly to the Boys and Girls Club for implementation and operation of this program. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Bill Mahan**

Informed the Board of Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission a new management plan for four new animals on the State’s imperiled species list; gave an update on Reef Fish Amendment 26; discussed the 4-H Butterfly Development Program, 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program, and the Franklin County 4-H Summer Camp; informed the Board of the Apalachicola Bay Oyster Management Meeting and the UF/IFAS NFREC Vegetable Field day in Quincy.

**Sheriff Mock - Inmate Medical**

Informed the Board that the inmate population doubled since last year from 40 to 92; discussed outstanding bills; discussed cost of tents with Board; Board recommended contacting Emergystat about reducing ambulance costs; Michelle Moore, of the Sheriff Department, commented on the outstanding bills; Ginger Coulter, of the Sheriff Department, commented on using Medicare and Medicaid for the inmates; Sheriff Mock commented on the new radio system; Mr. Wolfe, interim CEO at Weems Hospital, offered some options that might help save the Sheriff Department on medical expenses Ms Johnson, Clerk of Courts, stated that the budget transfer would require the following amendments:

Increase	120.80.581.9100	Budget Transfer to Sheriff	\$35,0000.00
Decrease	120.99.584.9600	Reserve for Contingency Fines and Forfeitures	\$35,000.00

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Mosconis to to approve budget transfer requested by Sheriff as defined by the Clerk. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley to send Emergystat a letter requesting a discount for services provided to the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Skip Chormicle, of Emergystat, was in the audience at a later time during the meeting and agreed to try and reduce future and current charges for ambulance services provided to the Sheriff Department for inmate transportation.

**Helen Spohrer - Forgotten Coast TV**

Attorney Sanders and Ms Helen Spohrer discussed a request by Forgotten Coast TV to manage the County's cable access channel

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley to approve the agreement, allowing Forgotten Coast TV to manage the County's cable access channel, contingent on Attorney Shuler's approval. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Seth Blitch - ANERR**

Gave an update on activities at the National Reserve including the LIFE program, NOAA grant for 140k, review of Reserves program by NOAA; discussed status of hunting issues on Little St. George; discussed status of Lighthouse reconstruction project

**Special Meeting - Board of Adjustment**

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Adjustment to address the following item:

**Seawall – Deer Partners & Keith Hardy**

Mr. Pierce updated Board on issue;

Attorney Sanders, representing Deer Partners, discussed the variance request to extend the seawall;

Mr. Keith Hardy, a neighbor and co-applicant of the variance request, expressed support of the variance request for the extended seawall and stated that the extension would also protect his property;

Richard Harper, of the Board of Adjustment (BOA) Advisory Committee, stated the BOA concerns of the height of the seawall;

John Slager, an engineer for Deer Partner, commented on the need for the height of the seawall;

Dan Tonsmeire, ABARK, ask the Board to consider other options more environmental for future requests;

Paul Riegelmayr, commented on the seawall and also asked the Board to consider other options;

Board discussed concerns of the height, angle, and end of the seawall;

Joe Hambrose commented on this issue;

Board discussed this issue.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Mosconis, to approve the variance request to extend the seawall for Deer Partners and Keith Hardy and build the requested steps. Motion carried 4-1 with Crofton voting Nay.**

**Motion by Putnal, to direct the County Attorney to create an ordinance limiting the height of all seawalls to 5ft and allowing heigher walls by variance only. Putnal withdrew the motion.**

Board discussed maximum height of seawalls request;  
Paul Riegelmayr commented on this issue and suggested a workshop;  
Keith Hardy also commented on this issue;  
Ken Osburne, of Alligator Point, asked the Board to consider researching this issue of height before creating an ordinance;  
Board, after further discussion, decided to schedule a workshop at a later date to allow time for the staff to research this issue further;  
Jeanne McMillan commented on this issue and asked the Board to consider revetments and other options

**Tami Ray - Haskell Company - Feasibility Study**

This item will be rescheduled to later date

**Department Supervisor Report (Continued)**

**Michael Shuler - County Attorney**

Update on the Health Council's request to discuss the Inter-local Agreement regarding the proposed tax; updates on the Dog Island setback issue, and the appraisal on Alligator Point road, and discussed the Take Stock on Children dinner conflict with the next scheduled regular meeting on May 16, 2006; Updates and recommendation for the Chairman's signature on the NACO prescription discount agreement, the Tim Turner litigation, and the ARPC's involvement with the revolving loan program

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Mosconis to table Health Council's request to discuss the proposed Inter-local Agreement . Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Mosconis, to change the next scheduled FCBCC regular meeting on May 16, 2006 from 5pm to 9am. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Crofton, seconded by Putnal to authorize the Chairman's signature on the NACO prescription discount program agreement. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley, to send a letter to ARPC explaining the County's position regarding the ARPC responsibility with the revolving loan program. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Alan Pierce - Director of Administrative Services**

**Item 9b**

Board action on request for Christian Amuroux on Dog Island, Lot 16, to move an existing house within 3 feet of the right-of-way. I have spoken to the agent and the house can be moved 2 feet further away from the right-way to make a setback of 5 feet. I have spoken to Mr. Chris Teaf, Dog Island Conservation District. He was going to contact DEP to discuss what requirements DEP is imposing on structures moving away from the Gulf but I have not heard back.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton to table this item until Dog Island Conservation District comments on this issue. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Item 9a**

Board action on the request from Jeanne McMillan, Wildwomen Inc, for a variance to build a shed 40 feet into the Critical Habitat Zone. The initial solution included a stormwater pond built on county property that would serve Ms. McMillan's project as well as provide some treatment of stormwater from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. I have asked Ms. McMillan to design and move the stormwater pond to her property, so that public property is not involved in any way. She has done that. Board action on the request for a variance.

Board discussed effect of this variance on the Bay and the importance of the Critical Habitat Zone

Jeanne McMillan, the applicant, discussed this issue with the Board and Apalachicola Bay and River Keepers' (ABARK) role with approval of variances  
Gathana Parmenas, a City of Carrabelle Commissioner, commented on what is considered a water dependent use and the use of ABARK to provide technical advice on stormwater issues

**Motion by Crofton to table this request. Motion failed due to a lack of a second.**

**Motion by Crofton to deny this request. Motion failed due to a lack of a second.**

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley, to approve this request. Motion carried 4-1 with Crofton voting Nay.**

**Item 1**

Board action to approve a Resolution requesting \$600,000 at 3% interest from the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Program for Weems Memorial Hospital

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Mosconis, to approve the Resolution for the loan from Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Program. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Item 2**

Inform Board that Senator Nelson has written the county a letter stating his office is looking into Medicare billing issue at the Hospital.

**Item 3**

Board action to award C.W. Roberts the bid on Lake Morality and C-30. Preble-Rish Engineers have negotiated the price down to the budget the Board has made available, which includes the \$1 Million dollars of local funds. Board action.

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton to award C.W. Roberts the bid on Lake Morality Road and C-30. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Item 4**

Inform the Board the Hospital has received a Dept. of Homeland Security Grant and has purchased 2 Eagle Impact Portable Ventilators valued at \$15,000. There will be an additional grant for additional equipment and training.

**Item 5**

Inform Board that Mr. Daniel Rothwell will be in the county Monday, May 8 to interview for the position of County Engineer. Any commissioner who would like to meet the applicant please let me know. He will be available Monday morning. Monday afternoon I will take him to Port St. Joe so that various staff at Preble-Rish can interview him and assess his engineering skills and training. He is a P.E. registered in Florida and Georgia, and has extensive experience in stormwater and road construction.

**Item 6**

Preble-Rish Engineers is interested in seeking additional DOT funds for their clients. One program that Franklin County is not eligible for on its own, but would be if it Franklin County joined with another county is the TRIP program- Transportation Regional Incentive Program. TRIP projects need to meet a regional issue, and thus two counties have to work together. DOT funds up to 50% of TRIP projects. Preble-Rish believes that Franklin and Liberty counties could benefit by working together. Does the Board want to direct Preble-Rish to investigate the benefits and report back to the Board?

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley to direct Preble-Rish to research the TRIP program and report back to Board. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Item 7**

The Board received a Fedex package from The Ferguson Group, from Washington, DC, offering to be the county's lobbying firm for federal grants. Their basic rate is a \$10,000 a month retainer, with billing to start after 33 hours of work is done each month. The hourly rate is \$350, plus expenses. Board direction.

There was no action from the Board on this item.

**Item 8**

Board action to appoint new members and re-appoint certain members to the Gulf Coast Workforce Development Board. New members are: Ms. Sheila Hauser, private sector member and President of Carrabelle Chamber; Ms. Mary Claire Lovell, retired teacher from Carrabelle; Ms. Suzanne Zimmerman, Executive Director Carrabelle Chamber. Re-appointments are: Ms. Betty Croom, and Mr. Cliff Butler.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to appoint new members and re-appoint members as recommended by Mr. Pierce. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Item 10**

Inform the Board of Commissioner Lockley's role with the grant award to Falan Goff from Community Forestry Research including a \$1,000 honorarium to Franklin County.

**Marcia Johnson - Clerk of Court**

Mr. Pierce, for Ms Johnson, requested Board action to approve the following Budget Amendment for the Tourist Development Council's recommendation to fund the Park's & Recreation department in the amount of \$47, 025.00 to maintain facilities throughout the County:

Increase	130.33.581.9100	Budget Transfer to General Fund	\$47,025.00
Decrease	130.33.552.34011	Other Contract SVC/Tourist Development	\$47,025.00
Increase	001.381.200	Transfer From Tourist Development Fund	\$47,025.00
Increase	001.70.572.1200	Regular Salaries	\$16,667.00
Increase	001.70.572.2100	FICA Taxes	\$ 1,275.00
Increase	001.70.572.2200	Retirement	\$ 1,862.00
Increase	001.70.572.5200	Operating Supplies	\$ 255.00
Increase	001.70.572.6400	Machinery & Equipment	\$ 1,469.00
Increase	001.70.572.6401	Machinery & Equipment	\$25,497.00

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton to approve the requested budget amendment as requested by the Clerk. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Open Proposals – Pre Event Contracts for Debris Removal**

Mr. Pierce opened the proposals that were submitted per the County's request.

**Regional Proposals**

Crowder Gulf  
Wood Resources  
Ash-Britt  
Asplundh

**Local Proposals**

Bobby Sapp  
Tim Saunders

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to forward the proposals to Mike Rundel, of the EOC, to review and make a recommendation to the Board. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Commissioner's Comments**

**Commissioner Sanders** requested Board action to send a letter to the St. Joe Company to have the road at the old Forestry Site around the ballpark improved; also requested improving the road, by perhaps adding limerock, between Lanark and Carrabelle that is used during storms as a secondary route and making Lake Morality Road the first on the paving project list; also directed Mr. Pierce to include a timeline with penalties to the paving project.

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, directing the staff to send a letter to the St. Joe Company as requested by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Crofton requested Board action for a letter of support for the Eastpoint Post Office to bid on funds for a new Post Office.

**Motion by Crofton, seconded by Mosconis, directing staff to send a letter of support for the Eastpoint Post Office with copies to each of our State Representatives, Senators, etc. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Adjournment**

Chairman Sanders adjourned the Regular Meeting at 11:55 AM.

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Cheryl Sanders, Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

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Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Courts