

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 5, 2000**

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: Clarence Williams, Chairman; Bevin Putnal, Cheryl Sanders, Jimmy Mosconis, and Eddie Creamer, Commissioners; Kendall Wade, Clerk; Marcia Johnson, Deputy Clerk; Alfred Shuler, County Attorney.

9:00 A.M. Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

Absent: Amelia Varnes, Deputy Clerk

(Tape 1-25) Commissioner Sanders made a **motion approving the minutes of the meeting held on August 15, 2000.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-28) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to pay the County bills.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-44) Mr. Mahan reported the status of the Florida Vibrio Vulnificus Risk Management Work Group. He said Martha Roberts, DACS, has appointed the following to the Work Group; Bob Jones, Southeastern Fisheries Association, Leroy Hall, Franklin County Seafood Workers Association, Grady Leavins, Leavins Seafood, Harry Faulk, Mark Faulk Seafood, Bill Mahan, Florida Sea Grant-University of Florida, Steve Otwell, UF Gainesville, Roberta Hammond, Florida Health Department, David Heil, Florida DCAS, Miles Motes, USDA, and Mike Davis, Hard Clam Industry. He said this was just for the Board's information.

(Tape 1-68) He said he attached the biannual Florida Agricultural Statistics Service report on aquaculture to his report for the Board's information.

(Tape 1-167) He informed the Board that FAMU is currently advertising for three Extension Agent positions in our area. He said the positions are 50% 4-H and 50% Family and Community Sciences in Franklin and Gulf Counties; 50% 4-H and 50% Small Farm in Calhoun and Liberty Counties; and 50% Small Farms and 50% 4-H in Wakulla and Leon Counties. He informed the Board these positions require a Master's Degree and the starting salary is \$35,000.00 a year.

HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(Tape 1-200) Mr. Chipman reported the motor grader should be back at the Road Department on Friday. He said he had nothing else to report to the Board this morning.

ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(Tape 1-219) Mr. Pierce informed the Board the plans and specifications for the Carrabelle Branch of the Franklin County Public Library are in the Planning and Zoning

Office for review. He said representatives from the Library would be at the next Board meeting to seek authorization for bids to build the building.

(Tape 1-224) He said he misinformed the Board at the last meeting. He stated DEP has not issued the permit for the pavilions at the SGI County Park on SGI. He said they have issued their intent, but the permit is held up for several items, which Preble-Rish, the consulting engineers, are preparing. He explained that because the items will be arriving this afternoon, and it is Election Day, he would like authorization from the Board to go ahead and sign the documents related to the permit for the Board. He said this would relieve the Chairman from having to come back to his office today or tomorrow to physically sign the documents. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Pierce to sign the documents related to the DEP Permit for the SGI County Park.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-245) Commissioner Mosconis said Teresa Kline, Let the Children Play Foundation, was present this morning to request the Board include the playground in the plans for the SGI County Park excluding the water park. He asked Mr. Pierce if he had reviewed the plans. Mr. Pierce replied he had, but not the revised one. Teresa Kline said they are going to put sand where the water park was originally supposed to be. Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Pierce if he could work with Ms. Kline on this project. Mr. Pierce replied yes, but he didn't want the Board to authorize another survey since one had already been done. He said he would take the County Engineer, David Kennedy, over to SGI to document the space for the playground on the site plan. Ms. Kline said what she really needed today was a site agreement which basically states the County will agree to allow the LTCPF to install a playground in that designated area on the SGI County Park. She said without the signed agreement the LTCPF cannot go ahead with fund raising activities because the public needs to know they are contributing to an approved playground. She stated the Apalachicola City Commission adopted a Resolution for the Battery Park Playground so they could move forward with fundraisers. Commissioner Mosconis interrupted Ms. Kline and said he would make a **motion directing the Planning Department and the County engineering firm to work with Ms. Kline and the LTCPF to get the playground blueprints into the SGI County Park.** Commissioner Mosconis said today was not the day to be here all day hashing out this matter. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Pierce told Ms. Kline the County has no intention of changing the size allotted for the playground. Ms. Kline asked the Board to sign the agreement. Commissioner Mosconis said this was all he was going to do today and he wanted it made perfectly clear the Board is not endorsing a water park in any way; only a children's playground similar to the one in Apalachicola.

(Tape 1-338) Mr. Pierce said there is a problem at the Apalachicola Airport. He said the Emergency Management Operations Office has had some problems with different groups trying to make Board decisions at the Airport. He said Commissioner Mosconis asked him to prepare some guidelines for the building and property. He said the policy would address renting the County owned EOC building at the Airport. He read the following guidelines for renting the County owned EOC building at the Airport; 1. Organizations

and committees established by the County Commissioners may meet in the EOC at no charge. Example: Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee, Local Mitigation Steering Committee (which was established by the County Commission based on a contract the County signed with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council). 2. Local non-profit organizations associated with County government related activities may meet in the EOC at no charge. Example: the local chapter of the American Red Cross, because the Red Cross responds and assists local residents when the County is threatened by disasters. Example: Civil Air Patrol or Coast Guard Auxiliary also responds during disasters. 3. All other organizations or committees may use the EOC for meetings provided the Emergency Management Director approves the meeting time, and provided a \$75.00 fee is paid to the County Commission for the cost of using the building. The \$75.00 fee is per meeting so long as the meeting does not last more than four hours. For meetings of more than four hours, a daily rental fee of \$150.00 per day will be charged.. 4. Meetings, which include preparation and consumption of food other than, coffee and simple pastries will not be allowed, except when the building is activated as the County Emergency Operation Center. 5. Fees shall be paid before the meeting, and shall be paid during regular working hours at the County Planning and Building Department, which has the ability to write receipts for such payment. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion adopting and approving the Chairman's signature on the "Guidelines for Renting the County owned EOC Building at the Airport"**. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-415) He presented a packet that was sent to property owners on SGI by the Apalachicola Bay and River Keepers as part of their grant funded program to help protect sea turtles.

(Tape 1-423) Commissioner Mosconis said about a week ago last Thursday he got a telephone call from Senator Bob Graham's Office notifying him the Senator was going to make an announcement in Tallahassee regarding the dredging of the Apalachicola River. He said he went to the news conference and said basically Senator Graham is sponsoring legislation to de-authorize dredging of the Apalachicola River, not the Intercoastal Waterway, from Pin Hook all the way to the dam. He stated he wanted to make sure the Intercoastal Waterway was not confused or included in this announcement. Mr. Pierce reported the USCOE is still dredging the Two-Mile Channel and will be there approximately two more weeks.

(Tape 1-474) He informed the Board that on Porter Street at the West end of SGI, the public is creating a public boat ramp at the end of a canal. He said people who are using the ramp are parking in the street, and over time the ramp traffic may interfere with the street traffic as well as create erosion problems on the street. He said the Board does not need to take any action on this matter today, but he just wanted to make the Board aware of the problem. Commissioner Mosconis said, on that same note, he would like to direct Mr. Pierce to see if there is anywhere near this area to place a public boat ramp. Commissioner Mosconis said that also on the west end of County, around six or seven mile, there is a boat ramp being used by the public. He asked Mr. Pierce to check to see if St. Joe Development would give the property to the County for a public boat ramp.

Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to check into these areas for public boat ramps.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-512) Teresa Kline said she would like to address the Board again. She stated she would be very brief. She asked if the Commissioners would adopt a Resolution today that states the County will allow the LTCPF to build a playground in the designated area for the SGI County Park. Commissioner Mosconis said this was not the day, the Board had already taken action on the matter. He stated the LTCPF had a year before the County would even receive the money. He said this matter could be addressed at another meeting later on. Commissioner Creamer told Ms. Kline emphatically that the Board had committed the area to LTCPF. Ms. Kline continued by saying they could not even order their equipment without a signed agreement or do a "dad gum thing" without a signed agreement saying the County would allow them to build a playground there. Commissioner Mosconis said that is what the motion directed the Engineer and Mr. Pierce to do. Ms. Kline disagreed and said the Board wanted them to "look into it". Commissioner Creamer said the Board would work with them to find a spot to place the playground. Ms. Kline continued arguing with the Commissioners until Chairman Williams announced he was moving on the agenda.

VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-568) Mr. Johnson asked for approval from the Board to advertise for a fulltime Park and Recreation position budgeted in FY 2000-2001 with a starting salary of \$14,560.00. He said he also needed approval to advertise for a Animal Control Officer. He explained the present Officer Mike James is in the process of crossing over into law enforcement. He said he would like to start the new person with a salary of \$15,760.00 with a \$1,200.00 increase after becoming certified. He stated both requests are within the budget parameters and the hire date will be October 1, 2000. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Johnson to advertise for the Parks and Recreation and Animal Control Officer positions with a hire date of October 1, 2000.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-595) He informed the Board he is in the process of looking for a new home for the recycling drop site located near the Carrabelle IGA. He said he has talked to Commissioner Sanders about the matter. He explained Mike Willis, Apalachicola, owns the Carrabelle IGA property and is in the process of selling the property and has asked the County to remove the containers. He asked if any of the Commissioners knew of any property where he could relocate the containers to let him know. Commissioner Putnal suggested Mr. Johnson asked the City of Carrabelle for their help. Commissioner Sanders said she had a few suggestions and asked Mr. Johnson to met with her after the meeting today.

(Tape 1-624) Mr. Johnson said he would like to put some lights up around the walking path at Vrooman Park in Eastpoint and at Ned Porter Park in Apalachicola. He stated Vrooman Park already has about three lights, which is inadequate, they need at least four more, and Ned Porter Park needs six. He said these would just be simple streetlights. He

stated Florida Power would charge approximately \$150.00 to install them with a \$10.00 monthly fee. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion approving the placement of street lights, as needed, around the walking paths at Vrooman Park in Eastpoint and Ned Porter Park in Apalachicola to be paid out of the Parks and Recreation Budget.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

KENDALL WADE-CLERK

(Tape 1-652) Mr. Wade presented the FY 2000-2001 Franklin County Health Department Budget for the Chairman's signature. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion approving the Chairman's signature on the Franklin County Health Department Budget for 2000-2001.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-663) He explained the State Attorney's Office has requested a budget transfer of \$2,500.00 from Ordinary Witness Fees to Library Services. He said this was a line item transfer. He stated this was a written request from the State Attorney's Office. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving a line item transfer for the State Attorney's Office in the amount of \$2,500.00 from Ordinary Witness Fees to Library Services.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Wade pointed out that the money was already budgeted; they were just asking it to be moved from one line item to another.

(Tape 1-703) Mr. Wade presented a Contract Change Order #1 between Franklin County and Big B Contracting in the amount of \$4,660.00 for adding sloped insulation as per the alternate bid-adding parapet wall cap. He informed this was provided for in the original bid package and will make the contract total \$11,460.00. Mr. Pierce said there is one item being added, the parapet wall cap, to stop leaks. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion approving the Contract Change Order #1 in the amount of \$4,600.00 for added sloped insulation as per alternate bid and a parapet wall cap-Big B Contracting.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-733) He informed the Board his office had received the grant notification for the following grants: Litter Control and Prevention Grant, \$11,964.00; Waste Tire Solid Waste Grant, \$4,878.00; Solid Waste Recycling and Education Grant, \$45,358.00; and the Small County Solid Waste Grant, \$50,000.00.

(Tape 1-752) Mr. Wade said he talked to the County Attorney, Mr. Shuler, about this matter he is going to discuss with the Commissioners at this time. He said there is going to be a hearing regarding the GRIT Bankruptcy in Tampa on September 19, 2000. He said this was a RSVP meeting and they had to be informed today who would be attending to represent Franklin County. Mr. Wade volunteered to go to this meeting. Commissioner Sanders asked if one of Mr. Shuler's associates could go. Mr. Shuler replied this meeting was to develop a position, as a group, to decide what was the best way to pursue the recovery of County funds being expended for the claims GRIT has failed to pay. He said it may be necessary for the County to have legal representation at

the later hearing, but he felt Mr. Wade would be perfectly capable of representing the County at this particular meeting. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing Mr. Wade to attend this meeting on September 19, 2000 in Tampa concerning the GRIT Bankruptcy.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Mosconis expressed his concern about sending someone who is not an attorney to this meeting. Mr. Wade agreed to go to the meeting.

ALFRED SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY

(Tape 1-898) Mr. Shuler said he has ordered a title search on the Amerigas property in Lanark Village. He stated he has also ordered the Environmental Survey as well.

(Tape 1-932) He stated he discovered Jackie Gay had filed a disability and unemployment claim and the trial was set for October. He said he has filed a notice of appearance in the matter.

(Tape 1-969) He stated the County has been dismissed in the lawsuit filed on behalf of Ryan Buzier against the School Board. He said the matter concerned the School Board and had nothing to do with the County.

(Tape 1-980) He said he approved the plat for the Poloronis' with some changes.

(Tape 1-988) He informed the Board he submitted a letter from Pat Thomas Insurance Agency assuring the School Board the County is insured if they ever need to use their school buses for evacuation purposes.

(Tape 1-1001) He said Ms. Barbara Sanders has filed an appeal in the Elizabeth Johnston lawsuit against the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. He reminded the Board this matter arose when Warren Roddenberry was Sheriff and the County allowed juveniles to be housed in the County Jail.

(Tape 1-1017) He said Mr. Jan Hevier, attorney for Gulf State Bank, has requested a Partial Release of Mortgage on some property owned by Agnes G. Campbell that the Bank is in the process of foreclosing on. He said the County has a SHIP Mortgage on the property. He said he has reviewed the file and the County could require Mr. Hevier to re-foreclose on the property, but still could negate the County's SHIP Mortgage. He stated he sees no reason why the County shouldn't release the property from the SHIP Mortgage rather than require Mr. Hevier to go to all of the trouble to just foreclose the County out. Mr. Shuler said he is requesting the County approve the Chairman's signature on the Partial Release of a Mortgage of Agnes G. Campbell. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the Chairman's signature on a Partial Release of Mortgage on a SHIP Mortgage-Agnes G. Campbell for Gulf State Bank.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1106) Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Shuler if he had been in touch with Amerigas since the last meeting as he informed the Board earlier in his report. Commissioner Mosconis said the manager of the local Amerigas told him last week that

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he could not reach Mr. Shuler regarding this matter. Commissioner Mosconis said he left word with one of Mr. Shuler's sons asking him to call the local company. Mr. Shuler said he talked to the local representative and has been in contact with Amerigas.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD
THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.**

Clarence Williams CLARENCE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

Kendall Wade KENDALL WADE, CLERK