

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
OCTOBER 4, 2016
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: William Massey – Chairman, Joseph Parrish – Vice Chairman, Noah Lockley, Cheryl Sanders, Rick Watson

Others Present: Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services, Michael Morón – County Coordinator, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

Call to Order

Chairman Massey called the meeting to Order.

Prayer and Pledge

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Commissioner Watson, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the amended minutes of September 6, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. and the minutes from September 20, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Payment of County Bills

On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve payment of the County's bills.

Department Directors Report

Howard Nabors - Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors said they built up the dirt roads from the damage caused by the rain so hopefully these areas will not flood. Commissioner Sanders stated she is receiving emails from people asking about when the County is going to start progressing with Alligator Point Road. She reported it is dangerous because big trucks are coming in delivering supplies down by the

marina and are not careful around the smaller cars. She inquired if the County is monitoring this road. Mr. Nabors answered yes, they check it every week. Mr. Pierce stated he was out there last week and the road is holding up very well. He said it is actually about a lane and a half but people do not need to be speeding. He reported this is a limerock road so people traveling the road need to go slow. Commissioner Sanders stated although the State received a disaster declaration, FEMA still has to come down and do their part. Mr. Pierce said the next step is the kickoff meeting that has not been scheduled yet. Mrs. Brownell said first there will be an applicant briefing. Mrs. Brownell reported FEMA was supposed to be at the state EOC last week. She stated she already submitted a request to EM Constellation to have the applicant briefing the following Monday. She reported some counties are having the applicant briefing and kickoff at the same time. She stated FEMA will review the projects to see if the work can be done. Commissioner Sanders stated she tried to explain the process and inform the citizens this will continue for a little while. Mr. Pierce estimated it will be months before a permanent repair will start. He informed the Board he asked Preble-Rish to put together a proposal for a solution for this section of the road. He commented it will take millions of dollars to repair this road so FEMA will need to come down, write the PW and go out for bids. Commissioner Sanders said now there is a new storm. Mrs. Brownell reported they are saying the storm will skirt the coast of Florida. Mrs. Brownell stated she does not know if the applicant briefing will occur Monday but they also have CIEM so they will be at the state Tuesday-Thursday. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Nabors to monitor the road. Mr. Nabors reported they placed signs and barricades in this area. Mr. Pierce stated in relation to Gulf Shore Blvd., the road just dead ends into the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Pierce reported Preble-Rish has surveyed the road and the center line is staked. He reminded the Board they must still review the area for Indian artifacts at a cost of \$2,500 as part of the wetlands permitting process. He said as soon as this review is over, he is going to ask the Road Department to open a road for the homeowners as they have no road to their houses. Mr. Pierce stated he hopes FEMA will view this as an emergency repair or permanent relocation and the County will get their money back but these houses have no access so something has to be done. Commissioner Lockley suggested the Sheriff's Office check the Alligator Point area for people who may be speeding.

Fonda Davis - Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis stated the Animal Control Department and Parks & Recreation Department are doing well. He said the soccer season started Saturday and everyone seemed pleased with the field. Mr. Davis reported Solid Waste has made a first pass for debris collection with the help of the Road Department. He stated they went to Alligator Point for a second pass on Saturday and should finish up today. He reported they will then move to St. George Island Plantation next. Chairman Massey reported they did a good job at D.W. Wilson Field. Mr. Davis asked for permission to activate debris monitoring contracts to help with FEMA. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Watson, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to activate the debris monitoring contracts.**

Pam Brownell - Emergency Management Director

Mrs. Brownell appeared before the Board and presented the following report:

Action Items:

NONE

Information Items:

1. Franklin County EOC Staff continue to promote our Re-Entry Tag program and encourage all residents to apply for their Re-Entry Tag.
2. EOC in conjunction with Weather Stem are in the process of having a weather gauge including wind gauge installed on the St. George Island Bridge. This gauge will be free of charge and is being donated by the Weather Stem Company.
3. Franklin County EOC held its communication exercise at the Franklin County Sheriff's Office on 09/28/16.
4. FCEM Staff will be attending CIEM from October 11 – 13 in Tallahassee.

Mrs. Brownell reported they do not know when the applicant briefing will take place. Mr. Pierce asked if Mrs. Brownell or Mr. Moron can be authorized to sign the standard FEMA forms for the County. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Watson, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize senior staff to sign this document for public assistance.** Mrs. Brownell informed the Board an email was sent to the municipalities, water districts and Sheriff's Office because they must act as their own agency to request public assistance. She explained the applicant request for Public Assistance has been sent to them as they will have to file for reimbursement. She explained they will attend the same kickoff meeting and present their paperwork to FEMA. Mrs. Brownell reported she is working on paperwork for the County now. Commissioner Watson asked if the declaration was for public assets and not private. Mrs. Brownell agreed this is correct because there is not enough damage to primary homes. She stated individuals can call FEMA for information and the number is posted on their website. She explained the area under houses, dirt, beaches and seawalls are not covered. She stated Franklin County does not have any engineered beaches so they are not eligible for funds for beach erosion. Mr. Pierce pointed out engineered beaches would only be if the County had pumped sand there. Commissioner Parrish referenced the letter submitted by Mrs. Brownell and asked if the municipalities are seeking public assistance to reimburse the County. Mrs. Brownell explained the County served as their contractor for debris collection and they will pay the County and then FEMA will reimburse them. Commissioner Parrish asked if they pay. Mrs. Brownell stated Mr. Davis is charging a tipping fee. Commissioner Parrish said they are responsible for the cost as they did not have a contractor. He reported they may not understand because in the past the County sent the bill and they did not pay. Mrs. Brownell explained previously a tipping fee was not charged so they could not claim reimbursement for disposal. She stated the County lost \$24,000 before in FEMA funds for disposal of the municipalities' debris because a tipping fee

was not charged. She went on to say when the County charges the tipping fee then the debris becomes the County's and they can claim reimbursement. Mrs. Brownell said the municipalities are being charged now so they can be reimbursed by FEMA. She stated they can be charged for the manpower and tipping fees and will be an applicant and submit bills for reimbursement just like the County. Commissioner Parrish reported this needs to be straightened out so they know where to file and the County get reimbursed. He stated someone needs to explain this to the cities. He expressed concern that if a big storm comes, the municipalities will be in trouble because the County has limited resources and is responsible for the unincorporated areas. He said it does not cost the cities anything to go out for RFQ's for their own collector. Mrs. Brownell pointed out the City of Carrabelle went out for RFQ's and only received one submittal and she advised them they would have to re-advertise as FEMA will not allow a single proposal. She stated the City of Apalachicola advertised for RFQ's several years ago and never signed the contract. Mrs. Brownell said the County can help with something small but cannot help if a big storm comes. She stated they need to put out RFQ's for their own debris monitor and debris contractors. Mr. Moron asked who pays if the County incurs overtime expenses. Mrs. Brownell said if the County is picking up their debris, the cities will be charged. Commissioner Parrish explained they would then pay the County and request reimbursed from FEMA. Mrs. Brownell said the cities stated they had no debris and then asked for debris pickup. Commissioner Parrish reported the cities need to understand the County has the unincorporated areas to take care of. He said they need to follow up with paperwork and procedures to take care of the city in case something happens. He reported they may be unaware of the severity of not being prepared. Commissioner Parrish stated Mrs. Brownell needs to go and explain the procedure. Commissioner Parrish explained someone has to reimburse the County for this overtime and they will not get reimbursed if the proper protocol is not followed. Chairman Massey said Mrs. Brownell explained the process but they did not take the proper action. Mrs. Brownell said they had a discussion before but the County never charged them so this is all new. Commissioner Parrish asked when the County started charging the tipping fee. Mrs. Brownell said she thinks when the new Ordinance was adopted. Chairman Massey stated the City of Carrabelle called the day after the storm because they were not set up to handle the debris. Mrs. Brownell said this is why she sent the letter because the County cannot pick up the debris without the cities officially requesting assistance or they will not receive reimbursement. She stated both cities have now submitted requests. She reported they must document all debris being picked up. Mrs. Brownell said all debris collected by the County has been documented by Mrs. Link Carroll, Franklin County Solid Waste Department. Mrs. Brownell commented the City of Apalachicola has a private contractor so she is not sure why they did not let this company collect the debris. She reported the contractor would just need to separate and document the debris. Mrs. Brownell said Mrs. Carroll has separated the debris from the City of Carrabelle, City of Apalachicola and the County because it cannot be mixed. Mr. Pierce explained if this is the first time the cities are getting a bill then someone may need to address the procedure. Commissioner Parrish stated when they request the assistance, they should know they are going to have to pay and get reimbursement from FEMA. He said the procedure needs to be explained to the cities. Mrs. Brownell agreed to meet with the cities and inform them of the procedure. Mr. Pierce said the City of Apalachicola

could have selected Waste Management, who they have a contract with, to collect their debris or have their employees work overtime to collect the debris. Mrs. Brownell reported the city workers did bring some debris and she hopes they documented the debris. Commissioner Lockley stated the Mayor and Commissioners should be contacted as they may not be aware of this new procedure. Mrs. Brownell said she will set up a meeting with Mrs. Lee Mathis, City Administrator, and Mayor Van Johnson. Commissioner Parrish stated the leaders need to be aware of the situation. Mrs. Brownell reported the applicant briefing will explain what is eligible for reimbursement. She pointed out if the municipalities had any officers working, they can claim their time. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Watson, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct Mrs. Brownell to get with the leaders of the two cities and administrator and explain this process they have discussed this morning.**

Erik Lovestrand - Extension Office Director

Mr. Lovestrand informed the Board they had good participation from the County at the district wide Ag Event in Quincy. He said over 60 students and teachers were present and had a good opportunity to learn about agricultural commodities.

Mr. Moron presented the following item from his report:

9. Inform the Board that I spoke to Mr. Nick Place of the University of Florida's Office of Dean for Extension and Florida. Dean Place and I discussed the possibility of looking at additional funding for the new facility here in Franklin County. Currently there are two possibilities for funding. The first is when the County submits its funding request to the legislature, we make funding for the facility a priority. The other is asking Mr. Pierce and Dewberry to consider it as part of our RESTORE requests. Is the Board willing to make funding for the facility its number one priority to the legislature? Board discussion.

Commissioner Sanders said the Board made this Legislative request last year. Mr. Moron stated there is a shortfall and the Board has to decide if the facility is worth it to the County. He explained the dean indicated if there is a possibility of funding, he will consider moving forward with the project and completing it in phases. He went on to say Dean Place feels like the majority of the money will be to repair the building as construction has to be done before anyone can occupy the building. Commissioner Lockley asked the amount of additional funding that is needed. Mr. Lovestrand estimated an additional \$200,000 to cover basic infrastructure needs. Mr. Pierce reported the total project is \$800,000. Mr. Moron estimated the shortfall is \$550,000-\$600,000. Mr. Lovestrand said the paving costs came out of the legislative funds and he highlighted the additional items that were needed. Commissioner Lockley reported the building is not worth \$800,000 to fix as it didn't cost that much when it was built. Mr. Lovestrand said the building was constructed in 1984 but he does not know the cost of construction. Mr. Lovestrand explained the University of Florida (UF) will stand by the amount

of funds they allocated which is about \$310,000. Mr. Moron said the Board must seek the additional funding. He reported the dean asked about alternatives but there are not any other county buildings available. He explained the Armory is the only building their office can return to and he will need to talk with Mr. Curenton about what can be done. Commissioner Sanders said she has a problem with asking for the additional funds because last year they were asked to let this be their legislative priority and they did. She went on to say they helped get the \$250,000 and the County paved the parking lot on the pretense they would move into the facility. She questioned what the UF is doing to get the additional funds. Mr. Lovstrand stated the UF feels like they have committed all the money they can contribute. He reported they allocated \$300,000 from three departments. Commissioner Sanders inquired why they cannot do something for \$550,000. Mr. Lovstrand said he thought they had enough money too. Commissioner Parrish stated they could build a new building for this amount of money. All of the Board members agreed. Mr. Lovstrand pointed out one of the problems with the building is it has been vacant. Commissioner Watson asked if the County could do some kind of evaluation. Mr. Pierce stated the building does not belong to the county. Mr. Lovstrand agreed and said DEP has a lease for the building. Commissioner Lockley asked if the County's building inspector could review the building. Mr. Pierce commented some of the items needed are specific to the UF's needs. Mr. Lovstrand presented a list of the items that need to be completed. Commissioner Lockley said he would not vote for using \$800,000 for this building. Commissioner Parrish explained if they are \$600,000 short then it would take \$1.1 million to renovate the building. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Moron to get with Dean Place and let him know the concerns of the Board and see what they can do to remedy the situation. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Watson, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to table this item.**

Franklin County Extension Activities September 21 – October 4, 2016

General Extension Activities:

- Extension Director attended annual Extension Professional's Association meeting in Daytona Beach for program sharing and planning with statewide network of Extension colleagues.
- Extension Staff assisted homeowners with information pertaining to storm erosion of property and yard weeds.
- Extension office recruiting for participation in a "waterschool" program that will focus on issues related to the Apalachicola River and Bay for October 21. Program will involve a morning session with presentations and an afternoon paddling trip on the River.
- Extension office reaching out to local schools to participate in the annual Peanut Butter Challenge. All peanut butter collected is matched by peanut producers, then donated to local food pantries.

Sea Grant Extension:

- Extension Director partnered with Gulf County Extension to host a booth at the annual Scallop Festival in Port St. Joe. Information about the work of Sea Grant and Extension was shared with the public.

- Sea turtle lighting equipment continues to be distributed to beachfront property owners in the County under the year 2 budget.
- Extension Director provided a presentation at the EPAF conference about Franklin County's sea turtle lighting project work.

4-H Youth Development:

- Over 60 Franklin County students and parents attended the NW Extension District's "4-H Ag Adventure Day" hosted at the North Florida Research and Education Center in Quincy. The Extension Director taught a portion of the field day about the importance of agricultural crops and the processes involved for farmers to produce what we eat.
- Franklin County's Making Strides 4-H club continues to meet.

Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program Assistant back to conducting nutrition programs local schools.

Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Extension Director partnered with the Wakulla County Extension Director to provide a presentation at the EPAF conference about an effort at St. Teresa Beach to eliminate a significant patch of cogon grass impacting native habitats of 5 property owners.

Reconvened at 9:45 a.m.

Reconvened 9:50 a.m.

Mr. Alex Quintana, Congresswoman Gwen Graham's Office, said their office will open at 10:00 a.m. if anyone needs assistance.

Kate Aguiar – Library Advisory Board – Update

Mrs. Kate Aguiar, Chairman of the Library Advisory Board, appeared before the Board. She stated the ad for the Library Director will start this week and they are forming a committee to interview the applicants. She requested Ms. Eugenia Butler be appointed as the interim Library Director at this time. Commissioner Lockley asked if Ms. Butler works at the Library. Mrs. Aguiar answered yes, and said she has acted in this capacity before and has a master's degree in Library Science. Commissioner Sanders stated in the past, when they have been between directors, they had the libraries report to County staff. She suggested Mr. Moron fill this vacancy. Mrs. Aguiar said three years ago Ms. Butler was named interim Library Director to handle day to day operations. She commented they will also stay in contact with Mr. Moron. She stated the Library Advisory Board will provide any assistance that is needed. Mr. Moron reported Mrs. Aguiar sent an email saying this was the recommendation. Commissioner Lockley asked how many workers there are between both libraries. Mrs. Aguiar answered 3 full time and 1 part time and that does not include the director position. Chairman Massey asked if the ad is running for 2 weeks. Mr. Moron said the ad will run in the local paper for 2 weeks and closes on the 21st. He reported they will then confer with the Library Advisory Board to see if

they want to advertise in other counties or have an adequate pool of applicants. Chairman Massey agreed they should advertise locally first. Mrs. Aguiar stated last time they had an adequate pool of applicants from this county. Chairman Massey said Mr. Moron can handle these duties for a few weeks. Commissioner Parrish asked if there was a requirement to advertise this position for 30 days. Mr. Moron was not aware of a requirement. He explained they will advertise for 2 weeks and see how many applicants they get. He said they can advertise longer if necessary. He informed the Board he can give them some indication of the number of applicants at the Board meeting in 2 weeks. Chairman Massey stated they could hire someone at the meeting on November 1st. Mrs. Aguiar disagreed and said if the ad does not close until October 21st, they still need time to interview. She estimated the hiring time would be closer to the middle of November at the earliest. Chairman Massey inquired who interviews and chooses the director. Mrs. Aguiar stated the committee interviews, the Library Advisory Board presents a recommendation, and this Board hires the individual. Commissioner Watson questioned if they are also still looking at the policies and procedures. Mr. Moron agreed this is being done also. **Commissioner Watson made a motion to appoint Ms. Eugenia Butler as the interim Library Director.** Commissioner Sanders said she has a concern that the head of the Library Advisory Board is the sister-in-law of the person being appointed as interim director. She explained this person will be over all the libraries and she does not have a problem with the person but it does not look right that this person is the sister-in-law of the main person who spoke at the last meeting about this issue. She stated she is opposed to taking this action. She explained in the past county staff and Wilderness Coast Library have helped when the director position is vacant. Commissioner Watson inquired about who Ms. Butler is related to. Commissioner Sanders reported her sister in law is Mrs. Denise Butler. Mrs. Aguiar stated the Library Advisory Board stands by their recommendation. She commented Mrs. Butler is the most qualified member of the existing library staff and having an interim director would be better than having Mr. Moron fill in. She said Ms. Butler will still need assistance from Mr. Moron. Commissioner Watson asked if Ms. Eugenia Butler is applying for the position. Mrs. Aguiar answered no, she does not think so. Commissioner Lockley asked why they need an interim director for only a month. Mrs. Aguiar said the person handles day to day items such as timesheets, expenditure and manages the staff. She explained this person would not take on any new programs or make any broad sweeping changes. Commissioner Sanders said she does not have anything against Ms. Butler; it is just the appearance of this suggestion that looks bad. Commissioner Lockley stated there has always been a procedure that family does not vote on items involving their family. Chairman Massey asked if Mr. Moron can oversee the libraries for a month. Mr. Moron reported he will do whatever the Board directs him to do. Commissioner Lockley stated the person should have abstained from voting on this matter. Mr. Pierce discussed the difficulty in Mr. Moron handling day to day operations at the libraries. Chairman Massey stated he will also oppose this recommendation and prefers for Mr. Moron to handle the libraries. **Motion failed for lack of a second.** Commissioner Parrish asked if there is someone on the Library Advisory Board that could be the interim director. Mrs. Aguiar said this may not be a good idea as they will assist or volunteer but not be paid employees of the library. She explained there were several individuals willing to assist Ms. Butler if she considered acting as interim director.

Commissioner Lockley made a motion for Mr. Moron to supervise the Libraries for a month and then they will come back and go from there. Commissioner Sanders inquired if Mr. Moron will be running the day to day operations and taking care of any personnel problems at his will and the Board will support him. Chairman Massey agreed they will follow the rules.

Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0. Mrs. Aguiar discussed a memo about the impact on operations at the library until the director position is filled. She said they will obviously be running these items by Mr. Moron.

Mrs. Aguiar complimented the Friends of the Library for the recent fundraiser and said they did a good job. Commissioner Watson agreed this was a good event and a worthwhile project. Commissioner Parrish said he was not aware of this event or he may have attended. Commissioner Sanders reported she did not know about it either.

Bid Openings – Derelict Vessels Removal

Mr. Pierce reported to meet the requirements of the FWC grant; there is an individual price for each vessel. He explained this bid will be submitted to FWC as there are only a certain number of funds available. Commissioner Sanders asked about a sailboat to the east that, according to Mr. Curenton, FWC is working with the owners on but is still there. Chairman Massey stated they are trying to remove this boat. Mr. Pierce explained if the owner of the vessel is known, then it is not considered a derelict vessel and does not get added to the list. Chairman Massey reported they have to get the vessel out of the owners name and then the salvage company will get the vessel. Mr. Pierce stated according to the list there are 18 derelict vessels and 4 pending. He explained the location of the vessels considered pending. Commissioner Sanders expressed concern that this sailboat is not on the pending list and is in the middle of sea grass beds. Chairman Massey explained the location of this vessel. Mr. Pierce said he will ask FWC about the sailboat. Mr. Moron and Mr. Pierce opened the bid, as follows:

Hondo Enterprises, Inc.	Defuniak Springs, FL	\$456,206
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Mr. Pierce said the money available will only remove some of the vessels as there is only \$1 million available statewide. Mr. Moron stated Commissioner Parrish inquired about disposal of the vessels at the landfill. He said Mr. Curenton was contacted and stated if the vessel cannot be disposed of at the landfill, it must be transferred but they do not know the costs. Mr. Pierce inquired if the bid includes disposal. Mr. Moron said Mr. Curenton did not act like it was included. He stated Commissioner Parrish was concerned about what happened to the vessel after it came over the scales and the cost incurred with taking it to another county. Commissioner Parrish reported some of these vessels are saturated with oil and he is concerned with placing them in the landfill. He explained this could result in liability issues for the County if the vessel is not properly disposed of. Commissioner Parrish reported the grant will not take care of the environmental problem which is why he suggested to Dewberry using some of the funds designated for the environment for removing these vessels. He stated all of the vessels will not be removed by FWC or the Coast Guard so it will fall on the County to take

care of the vessels. He said they need to remove the vessels to clean up the waterways but the Board needs to also look at the disposal costs. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Watson, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to accept the bid in the amount of \$456,206.00 and turn the bid over to Mr. Mark Curenton to submit with the FWC grant.** Commissioner Watson asked if this is a complete list of derelict vessels that have been identified. Mr. Pierce answered yes, and said FWC maintains the derelict vessel list. He explained this sailboat may not be on the list as FWC may know the owner of the vessel and may be contacting them to remove the boat or abandon the boat through a legal process. Commissioner Lockley asked what will happen if the vessels need to be moved by boat to another county. Mr. Pierce was not sure and said they do not know if the FWC may have already made a determination about these vessels and the disposal costs is included. Commissioner Parrish questioned if this list includes boats up the river. Mr. Pierce read the list of vessels. Mr. Moron agreed to make copies of this list for the Board.

Stella Wilson – Dewberry – Presentation – Needs Assessment

Ms. Wilson appeared before the Board. She stated Mr. Bryon Griffith, Dewberry, is also present. She presented a draft of the community needs assessment and said it was sent electronically also. She reported there is also a complete data base listing of projects for Franklin County in the state portal. She said these projects were submitted by other entities not just the county. She explained 65% of the projects are environmental, 15% are infrastructure and the rest are in a different category. Ms. Wilson reported they will provide the summaries to the Board. Ms. Wilson stated the draft of the community needs assessment will be used in the introduction to the Multi-Year Implementation Plan (MYIP) and builds the basis for the selection criteria. She said this is a summary of what has been discussed and the Board's priorities in terms of the next year. She explained this is a draft so they can add to it or delete from it. Ms. Wilson stated the plan after this meeting and getting the Board's input is to go to the Restore Advisory Committee (RAC) on October 18th and get their input. Commissioner Sanders asked about project #1226 for beach renourishment. She said this is a state project as several years ago Alligator Point property owners took a vote and voted down beach renourishment. She reported this is not a County project so if people want to oppose this project, they need to contact the state and not the county commission. Mr. Pierce explained years ago he submitted a lot of projects and had to include one beach re-nourishment for the whole county. Commissioner Sanders stated she wants it known that Alligator Point voted against beach renourishment. Mr. Pierce said he submitted one generic beach re-nourishment for the County and this was done 3 years ago. Ms. Wilson advised the Board they can go to the portal to make any changes. Commissioner Lockley reported a lot of these projects have to do with the bay but he wants to know if the studies have been done and are providing answers on what is wrong. Mr. Pierce said the general answer about the problem with the bay is the lack of fresh water. He explained the spat success rates are not good and they are deciding on what product is best to put in the bay. Commissioner Parrish said there are a lot of different opinions but generally lack of fresh water flow. He discussed the water flow issues and the salinity of the water. Commissioner Parrish said a magistrate has been appointed by the Supreme Court and

the hearing will start October 31st in Portland, Maine. He reported the State of Georgia has subpoenaed people from Franklin County, state agencies and 1,000's of documents. He explained the magistrate will make a recommendation to the Supreme Court. He said if the State of Florida loses at the Supreme Court then it will be done and devastating to the bay. He stated the oysters filter all the contaminants out of the water. Commissioner Parrish reported he has talked with the attorney about discussing with the Board traveling there to network and participate for a couple of days. Commissioner Parrish said he is not ready to suggest a day or ask the Board for travel for him and the attorney at this time. He stated Mr. Pat Floyd, attorney for the City of Apalachicola, is going for some of the days and he feels it would be a good thing if an elected official and the County Attorney attended for a day or so. He explained this person would not be allowed to testify but would be there to show support for the State of Florida. He said this is the one chance and if they are not successful then they will need to move forward and try to generate some jobs. He said there may still be oysters but he questioned if it will be a viable resource and if people will be able to make money. Mr. Griffith stated when the portal was opened years ago all of the states did the same thing and there are a lot of projects. He explained these submittals pre-dated the Board deciding what they need to do. He said it is interesting to have a project pool but now it can be narrowed down to let everyone know what the most important areas and needs are. Mr. Griffith explained as the County goes forward they need to be careful to look at allocating money where other agencies are interested in spending money. He stated the needs assessment document is powerful and sponsored by the County's work in getting ready for a network approach on how to draw down the money. He explained soon there will be a new set of government leaders and all the regulatory agencies will have new programs. He said the agencies will be looking for places to spend the money effectively on communities that know where they are going, what is troubling them, what areas of need they have identified and how they can make the money work best. He reported this document will guide the Board's decision and also attract other money. Mr. Griffith explained the projects will not look like the short abstracts that went into the portal. Commissioner Lockley asked if they can add to this list. Mr. Griffith stated the Board does not have to draw their projects from this list. Mr. Pierce said this list does not have anything to do with what the Board wants to do locally. He explained at the time it was a comprehensive list and they tried to include everything to protect the County's interest. Commissioner Sanders reported one of the items is the Bluffs of St. Teresa which has recently happened so this list must be updated. She discussed a group called Hume Cares that wants land west of Apalachicola. Commissioner Parrish stated some of these projects are in the process of being completed with other pots of money. He explained these projects are not being submitted to the County to fund. Mr. Griffith said by reviewing the projects, sometimes you can see where the money is going and who you want to partner with. He explained they have to decide which projects have the best chance of accomplishing the outcomes they are after. Commissioner Sanders stated the Bluffs of St. Teresa project was submitted by FWC. Commissioner Parrish reported that transaction is almost complete. Mr. Griffith explained the original submissions were used to go after money in the other restore pots. Commissioner Sanders went on to say the County had a visioning meeting and the Bluffs of St. Teresa property was for future growth for homes and now 17,000 acres are being taken by the state without contacting the County. She said this action does not

coincide with the local views. Mr. Pierce pointed out there is also a proposal to buy 40 acres of St. Vincent Sound. Commissioner Parrish reported some of these agencies have an idea about how they want to spend their money and then review the projects for one that matches their idea and selects it. Mr. Griffith stated sometimes there are multiple interests if the property is up for sale.

Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report

Clerk Johnson did not have a report at this time.

Alan Pierce – RESTORE Coordinator – Report

Mr. Pierce presented his report, as follows:

- 1- Inform the Board that last week the Board received a copy of a letter that Florida DOT Secretary Jim Boxold wrote to FEMA requesting assistance on behalf of Franklin County. In my 29 years with the Board, I have never seen such a strong letter written by a state agency on behalf of Franklin County. Hopefully it will get some attention. The Secretary's letter was written on the same day that the county's letter to FDOT was written, where the county is asking FDOT to take over the Alligator Point Road. The Board action of Sept. 6 was to write a letter to the Governor requesting that the state take over Alligator Point Road. Commissioner Sanders discussed the county's request with District Secretary Tommy Barfield and it was Mr. Barfield who suggested the letter be written to him, and that copies be sent to our elected officials. Commissioner Sanders and I discussed the letter, and then I wrote the letter to District Secretary Barfield. So this Sept. 22 letter to Mr. Barfield, with copies to the Governor and others, is in the Board files in lieu of a letter directly to the Governor.

Mr. Pierce commented that neither letter has received a response.

- 2- Inform the Board that on Sept. 26, I had a tele-conference with the Consortium consultants, ESA, regarding Franklin County's Pot 3 projects. On Oct. 10, the consultants will be in Franklin County to discuss Pot 3 funds with me. The consultants are visiting every county in the Consortium, as their goal is to make a presentation at the December Consortium meeting on the status county projects. While the consultants continue to develop the State Expenditure Plan, there has been no direction from the Governor that he is going to support or approve what the Consortium turns in. But without any other direction all the counties are responding to the consultant's requests for projects. On Sept. 20, at the RESTORE workshop the Board did discuss Pot 3 funds. I used that discussion as a basis for what I told the consultants, but since they are coming here on Oct. 10 I thought I would go over what I said with the Board to make sure I am accurately stating the Board's opinion. Here is what I plan to say:

In keeping with the guidelines of Pot 3, where projects are limited to only 3 areas- environmental restoration, economic development, and infrastructure, Franklin County intends to spend 25% of funds on infrastructure (and 25% is the cap), and then equally divide the remaining funds between environmental restoration (37.5%) and economic development (37.5%). In terms of total money, if Franklin County receives its almost \$12M over the 15 years, then we would have \$3M for infrastructure projects, and \$4.5M for environmental restoration, and \$4.5M for economic development. The challenge is that this money will come in over 15 years, so the development of the projects will be over 15 years, or longer. A limited breakdown of projects and rough costs follows:

INFRASTRUCTURE- New county EOC- \$1M
 Sprinkler system for Armory- \$0.5M
 Land acquisition for landfill- \$0.5M
 To be determined - \$1M

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- Eastpoint Channel- \$2M
 Two Mile Channel-\$2M
 To be determined- \$0.5M

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION- Derelict Vessel Removal- \$0.5M
 Apalachicola Bay Restoration- \$4M

Mr. Pierce informed the Board the \$300,000 lift station problem at the jail will be solved by the Eastpoint Water & Sewer District. Commissioner Lockley asked if the Consortium funds come directly to the County. Mr. Pierce reported the Consortium funds will go to the State of Florida and then the County will get the funds from the State. Commissioner Lockley asked if the cities get any of this money. Mr. Pierce said the cities are not applicants as they are not members of the Consortium. Mr. Griffith stated the only applicant for pot #3 funds is the state and the Governor must approve the expenditure plan. He explained projects must be submitted by DEP not the counties. Mr. Griffith suggested a different approach with the consultants. He stated the County needs to be more general and say either restoration or transition of Apalachicola fisheries sustainability and the underlying economics behind it as the feature on the environmental side. He explained they should then suggest the tributary flows will affect the dredging. He suggested the County lead with Apalachicola Bay and not get into specifics because the money will flow over 15 years. He recommended with the EOC, the County could say they need highly improvement emergency management infrastructure in Franklin County. He said the County would then have the consultant work with the County to package the abstract properly so every funding cycle they are coming back and asking what the yearly funding interest is, as they are moving toward the goal. He said the consultants do not want the County to submit a list of projects. Mr. Pierce stated the money is reserved for Franklin County. Mr. Bryon replied the Governor has not approved anything at this point. He explained the consultants believe the framework of the expenditure plan will be held up to a number of lesser projects or programs. Mr. Pierce stated the County will not be so specific with the

consultants. Mr. Griffith stated the County is not submitting projects but elevating ideas to a program. He reported the County needs to ask what they are most convicted about and focus on it. Mr. Pierce asked if there is any direction from the Governor to the consultants and the Consortium. Mr. Griffith stated there may be but it is all conjecture until it is on paper. He recommended the County stay general but focused in their meeting with the consultants.

3- Provide Board with photo of the current condition of Gulf Shore Blvd. I took this photo a few days ago. I have already shared it with FEMA. Hopefully, this photo along with the letter from DOT Secretary Boxold will get someone's attention in FEMA that there is a serious problem on Gulf Shore Blvd.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report

Mr. Moron presented the following report:

1. Inform the Board that Mr. Mike Cooper, Weems CEO, will attend the October 18th regular meeting. Mr. Cooper informed me that representatives from Tallahassee Memorial and Alliant are scheduled to meet later this week so he should have more substantial information for the Board at the second meeting in the month.
2. Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on Dewberry | Preble-Rish's professional services proposal for the Ellis Van Vleet and 17th Street County Incentive Grant Program (CGIP) project. They will provide surveying, design, and permitting services. This project will be for the widening, resurfacing, striping, shoulder stabilization, culvert replacement/extensions, signs and grassing for approximately .65 miles of Ellis Van Vleet and 17th street.

On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Dewberry/Preble-Rish professional services contract for the Ellis Van Vleet and 17th Street CGIP project and authorize the Chairman to sign the proposal.

3. Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on Emo Archetitect's contract for Phase II of the Armory renovation project. This contract has been approved by the State. The County was awarded a grant for \$180,000 and is required to provide an \$18,000 match.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Watson, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the contract with Emo Architects for Phase II of the Armory renovation project and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract.

4. Board action to approve the Chairman's signature on Access and Use agreements for our current Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) projects. There are four

projects, which are Lombardi's Park (aka Waterfront Park), Indian Creek Park, Eastpoint Fishing Pier, and St. George Island Fishing Pier. Design is almost completed so we should be entering the bidding phase in the near future.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Access and Use Agreements for the current NRDA projects and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract.

5. Inform the Board that Doug Shuler is in the process of reviewing the bids that the County received for the Carrabelle and St. George Island Beach restrooms renovation project. He is trying to determine what caused the bids to be higher than anticipated. At some point he will forward a recommendation to the Board regarding this project.
6. Inform the Board that I am in the process of advertising for an Administrative Assistant. This person will be responsible for creating the agenda packets, typing resolutions and letters, and assisting the Commissioners and myself with secretarial duties. In addition, that person will also learn some of the permitting and building department duties. They will have a 25-hour workweek at a rate of \$11.50 per hour.

Mr. Moron said the final ad will run this week.

7. Inform the Board that the County has received the annual report from the Florida Forest Service. No action is needed but a copy of the report is included in your electronic packet.

Mr. Moron said he forgot to send the report but will send it via email.

8. Inform the Board that on Monday October 3rd Mr. David Morse of the Florida Forest Service informed me that his agency would be spraying herbicides in Tate's Hell Forest. I forwarded copies of Ordinances 92-09 & 99-04 that addresses the use of herbicides and insecticides in the County. I also asked that he provide a breakdown of the herbicide that will be used. Mr. Morse email indicates that they will be spraying outside of the Primary and Secondary Protection Zones as specified in Ordinance 92-9. Included in your packet is County Ordinance 92-9, information on the herbicide, and an aerial map indicating where this herbicide will be sprayed. Board discussion.

Mr. Moron asked if the County can say no or just comment. Attorney Shuler said he needs more information because this is the first time he has heard of this. Chairman Massey asked the location where the spraying will occur. Mr. Moron referenced the page with a map. Commissioner Sanders said she is concerned about aerial spraying. She reported she is opposed to the herbicide as it needs to be done naturally. She inquired what time of the year

they will be spraying and said the County needs more information. Mr. Moron reported he will call them and relay the Board's concerns.

9. This item was handled earlier in the meeting.
10. Inform the Board that you have been invited to participate in the commemorative event at British Fort National Historic Landmark and Fort Gadsden in the Apalachicola National Forest on October 22, 2016. A copy of the invitation from USDA Forest Supervisor Kelly Russell is in your packet.

Mr. Moron read a letter from Duke Energy thanking the County for their hospitality during the hurricane.

Chairman Massey brought into discussion giving the raises back to some employees at the hospital who received low amounts. Commissioner Watson said he would like to know what the amount of the raises was. Chairman Massey presented a copy of the amounts to Commissioner Watson. Chairman Massey estimated the highest one was \$.30 an hour. Commissioner Sanders stated she does not have a problem with this. Attorney Shuler said this is the first time he has heard about this so he will need to contact the labor attorneys. He explained his understanding was the recommendation was to call the raises back and when the hospital was in better shape then the Board would reconsider the raises. Commissioner Parrish stated the Board needs to be careful about not discriminating against a certain class of employees. He reported they do not give the raises so they can ask Mr. Cooper to reevaluate the raises. He said he understands the reason but the Board cannot give a raise to one group. Commissioner Parrish questioned if they have money to give the raises and sustain them. He said Mr. Cooper needs to make sure they have the revenue stream to pay the raises. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct Attorney Shuler to get in contact with the labor attorneys on this matter.**

T. Michael Shuler - County Attorney – Report

Attorney Shuler did not have a report at this time.

Commissioners & Public Comments

Commissioner Parrish said the general with the Corps of Engineers (COE) visits here every year or two to discuss water flows. He stated a breakfast will be held on Friday at 12:00 p.m. at the Owl Café. He explained the last few years the City of Apalachicola and County have split the cost of sponsoring the event. He reported County's portion would be \$350.00. He commented he will attend. **On motion by Commissioner Watson, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve paying the \$350.00.**

Commissioner Sanders reported when she was driving over today on Highway 98 there was a contractor dumping black dirt on the rocks next to the water. She stated the County has always been told they must use compatible sand and she would like to Mr. Moron to contact Transfield about this matter. She said this black dirt will end up in the bay.

Commissioner Lockley said, in relation to the hospital raises, the Board looked bad but the CEO gave himself a raise and his contract is set. He explained the CEO cannot give himself a raise and give some other people substantial raises and he should not have done it. He reported the labor attorneys said they had to take all of the raises back. Commissioner Lockley said in order to fix this problem they must go through the lawyers to do the right thing. He stated no one is going to make any money if they are coming and getting money to put in payroll every two weeks as the money will not last. He reported the County needs to straighten this out so the employees can have a job. He said they will get this straight but they want the CEO to know he should not have done what he did. He explained they are paying high salaries and do not have enough to make payroll. Commissioner Lockley said they need to bring in money for payroll and not just depend on the health care trust fund. He explained if money is going out and none is coming in then it will break the hospital. He reported the Board is working on this issue.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

William Massey - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts